

DWR NEWS | *People*

FALL 2006



San Carlos Turns 30

DWR's 56-foot research vessel plies the Delta following a bottom up renovation.



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50 years 1956 2006 DWR



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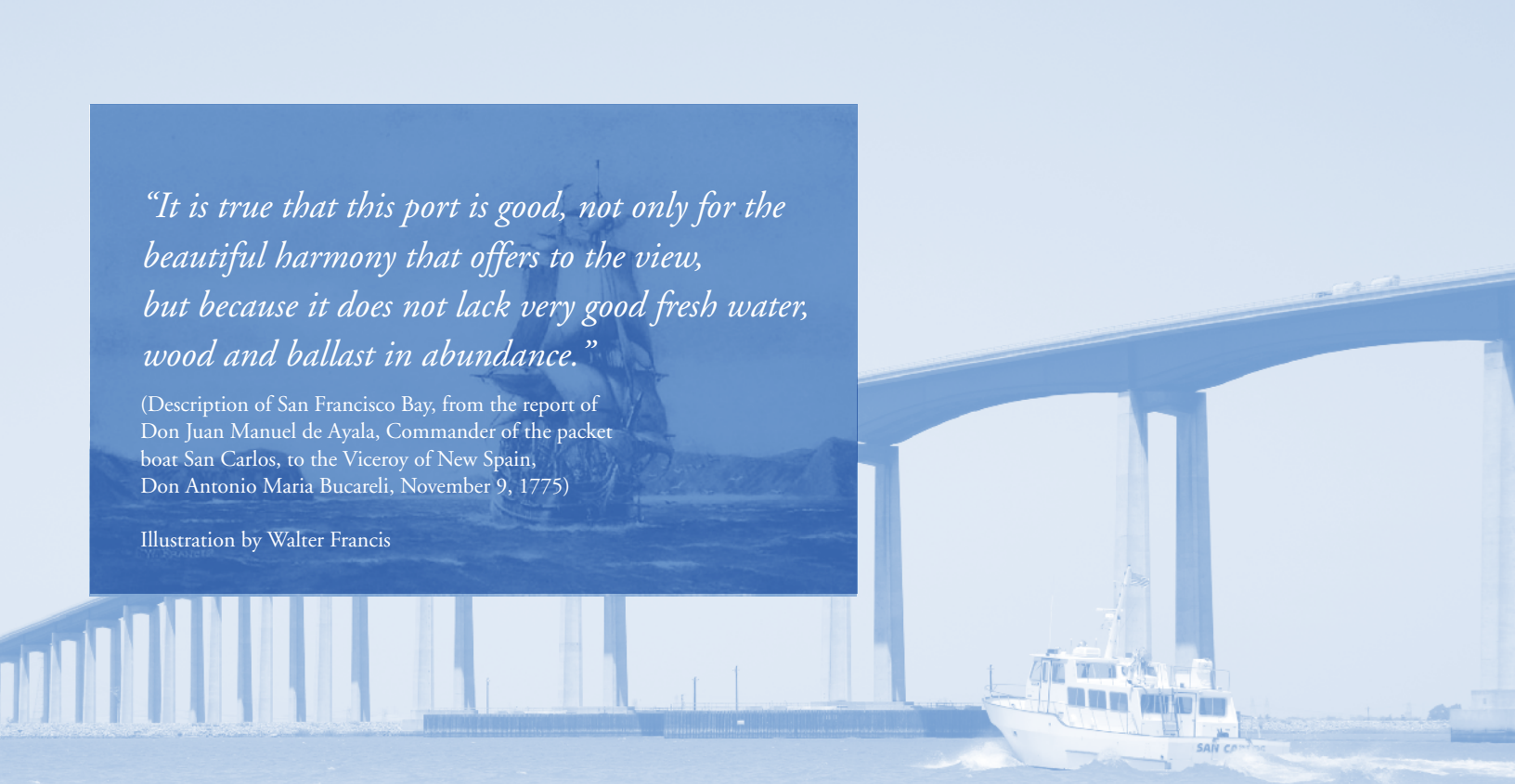
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"It is true that this port is good, not only for the beautiful harmony that offers to the view, but because it does not lack very good fresh water, wood and ballast in abundance."

(Description of San Francisco Bay, from the report of Don Juan Manuel de Ayala, Commander of the packet boat San Carlos, to the Viceroy of New Spain, Don Antonio Maria Bucareli, November 9, 1775)

Illustration by Walter Francis

RESEARCH VESSEL 'SAN CARLOS' TURNS 30 WITH MAJOR FACELIFT

Namesake of Historic Spanish Packet Boat

by Don Strickland

When Spanish explorer Juan de Ayala became the first European to pass through the Golden Gate in the 72-foot, double-masted packet boat San Carlos on August 5, 1775, he began a mission of exploration and discovery that continues to this day—via a namesake craft operated by the Department of Water Resources.

Some 200 years after Ayala's historic San Francisco Bay entrance, construction began on a modern-day San Carlos that routinely cruises the same waters first charted by Ayala's pilot.

Built according to DWR specifications in 1976 by San Diego's Campbell Yacht Company, the Research Vessel *San Carlos* is a one-of-a-kind water quality monitoring platform operated by

the Division of Environmental Services' Bay-Delta Monitoring & Analysis Section.

A 56 foot long fiberglass-hulled craft, she weighs in at 48 tons, has an 18 foot beam and a four and a half foot draft. Her aft work deck is equipped with an adjustable frame and winches for deployment and retrieval of bulky sampling equipment such as towing nets and sleds. She also has a hydraulic winch and davit system used in deployment of benthic dredges and submersible water quality samplers. Many of those features were designed by her first skipper, **Lloyd Brenn**, who captained the boat from the time she was still under construction until his retirement last year.



That's when **Eric Santos** assumed command of the boat he already knew intimately, having served aboard since he began working for DWR in 1992. His involvement with boats started well before that, however. He worked as a deckhand on Department of Fish and Game boats for five years, doing fishery research, before transferring to DWR.

"I decided to make the move," says Santos, "because DWR had a much bigger boat and being on the San Carlos is something I knew I'd enjoy. We do a lot of water quality and benthic work. We cruise San Francisco and San Pablo bays and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta checking water quality and sometimes collecting juvenile and adult fish. My work regularly takes me to some of the most beautiful areas in the state. I get to be outdoors and on the water. I guess you could say my workplace is unique."

Born and raised in the San Francisco area, Eric graduated from high school in Daly City, moving to the Sacramento area shortly after getting married about 20 years ago. Residing in Elk Grove, he commutes to the Antioch Field Office, where the San Carlos is based. "It seems like I'm always traveling through the Delta," he says, "whether it's by car or by boat. It's my backyard, a fascinating place, and I know the Delta very well. Originally, I had thought about becoming a helicopter pilot...but, I enjoy this line of work very much. Being skipper of the San Carlos is a great job and I really can't picture myself doing anything else."

Since taking the helm, Eric's been focused on the boat's second major refit since she was delivered to DWR in 1976. Fifteen years ago, The San Carlos underwent a similar refurbishment which included replacement of her two Detroit diesel engines. This

Above Left: Eric Santos, skipper of the San Carlos.

Above: (L-R) Gregg Schmidt, mate, and Eric Santos on the aft deck of the San Carlos.

time, the engines will get some maintenance but stay in place.

The current facelift has been extensive with the entire superstructure repaired or replaced, including the wheelhouse and the analytical laboratory. All windows, doors and hatches were brought up to snuff and the deck areas and interior areas upgraded as needed. In addition, the hull has been renovated and new sensors installed. To complete the refurbishing, the vessel's autopilot was replaced and the radar, other electronics gear, and deck machinery have undergone substantial upgrades.

With the refit, the San Carlos should continue to comfortably handle the demands placed on her for some time to come. "It would be nicer if she were a little faster," says Eric. "Right now, she has a top speed of 13 knots and sometimes we need to get to a station a little quicker than that. But, other than the speed issue, she meets our needs quite well."

At the time of this writing, the San Carlos was getting very close to a return to service. Tests were being conducted on the starboard engine (the manifold and turbocharger had been removed) and the crew was searching for the cause of an exhaust leak into the heat expansion, which could cause the engine to overheat.

>>> [continued on next page](#)

“Ayala and his crew spent 44 days in this great harbor. They explored the shores carefully, pressing as far as the delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers. Two of the names given by the expedition still survive: Alcatraz (pelican) Island and Angel Island (La Isla de Nuestra Senora de Los Angeles). In a sheltered cove of Angel Island, the San Carlos found good anchorage.”

(California History Nugget, January 1938)

As DWR’s primary research vessel, the San Carlos operates under an environmental monitoring program mandated by State Water Rights Decision D-1641. Her onboard crew is small in number but the boat and her missions are supported by a baker’s dozen of rear echelon personnel.

“My section has 12 staff members all of whom are devoted to maintaining the monitoring program carried out by the San Carlos,” says Senior Environmental Scientist **Dean Messer**, who’s Chief of the Bay Delta Monitoring and Analysis Section.

“We check zooplankton, phytoplankton, and benthic organisms monthly... so, the San Carlos is out on the water at least one week out of every month. My other duties keep me well-occupied in Sacramento but I try to get down to Antioch at

least seven or eight times a year and spend a day on the boat, checking things out...making sure everything’s operating well.”

As crew chief, DWR Engineering Associate **Scott Waller** logs considerably more time on the San Carlos than Messer, and he’s happy to be there. “It’s a great job,” says Waller. “You’re out there in the sun, on the water. What’s not to like?”

While enjoying the nautical nature of his work, Waller knows the San Carlos has a critical mission, one that’s taken very

seriously, particularly at a time when State officials are trying to pinpoint causes of declining Delta fish populations.

“When you’re working in environmental studies, the quality of your data is crucial,” he says, “because so many huge decisions are based on that data. We make every effort to ensure that the scientific information we collect with this boat is of the highest quality possible.”



The San Carlos and the IEP

The San Carlos is an important part of a cooperative environmental effort formed six years before the boat was built, a program extremely important to State Water Project (SWP) operation—yet relatively unknown to most DWR employees: the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Estuary.

It consists of 10 member agencies. Three are State: the Department of Water Resources; the Department of Fish and Game; and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

Six are federal: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR); the U.S. Geological Survey; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the National Marine Fisheries Service; and the Environmental Protection Agency.

There’s one non-government organization: The San Francisco Estuary Institute.

The 10 program partners work together to develop a better understanding of the estuary’s ecology and the effects of SWP and federal Central Valley Project (CVP) operations on the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary.

In a sense, the IEP is tied to the SWP because the right to divert water from the Delta is, in part, contingent on the collection and interpretation of water quality and other environmental data that can be used to gauge possible adverse environmental impacts from water project operations.

The IEP was created in recognition that SWP and CVP operations had combined ecosystem impacts and that a coordinated program would be the most efficient way to address data collection and interpretation.



Above: Scott Waller and Dean Messer aboard the San Carlos.

Left: The San Carlos getting a new superstructure at Svendsen's Boat Works in Alameda.

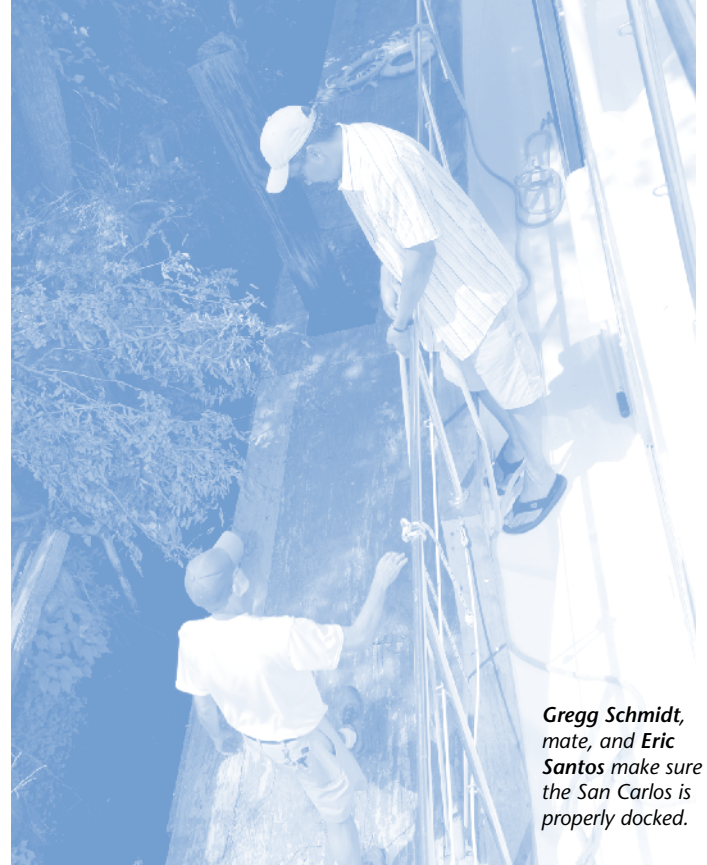
As the San Carlos glides through the Delta and bays, water is automatically pumped through the hull into equipment that measures water temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and chlorophyll fluorescence.

She's part of a monitoring system that includes 13 automated water quality monitoring stations, a lab van, and a fully equipped laboratory in Bryte, across the Sacramento River from the State Capitol. The samples collected are analyzed in three categories: physical, chemical and biological.

Life aboard the San Carlos is not entirely about collecting scientific data. After 17-years in the Delta, Waller knows there will always be distractions. "When you interact with the public," says Scott, "you come across all kinds of requests for the San Carlos. We've given educational tours to different groups from

schoolchildren to politicians, transported materials and flood fighters during flood events, and even helped the occasional disabled boat or wayward windsurfer."

>>> [continued on next page](#)



Gregg Schmidt, mate, and Eric Santos make sure the San Carlos is properly docked.

Water Rights Decision 1641 requires DWR and USBR to conduct a comprehensive environmental monitoring program to determine compliance with water quality standards and to submit an annual report to SWRCB discussing data collected. Data collected under D-1641 is used to guide operational models that determine how much water is released to meet Delta water quality standards, etc.

Program review takes many forms. For scientific content, there's a Science Advisory Group that looks at specific program elements.

The IEP also periodically invites stakeholders, a group called the Management Level Advisory Group, to comment on the program and its direction. Additionally, the California Bay-Delta Authority Science Program hosts specific scientific peer reviews of programs and findings.

The data set from the IEP program and its cooperative program predecessors dates back to the mid 1960's and is one of the most comprehensive data sets for an ecosystem in the country and the world. The program, while made up of rather fixed, long-term programs, also has shorter term special study elements to address specific data needs. In the last year this 'base' program has been augmented by another \$1.7 million last year and \$14 million this year to gather specific information to find the cause or causes for the recent unexplained organic decline witnessed since about the beginning of this decade. Without the IEP program, this issue would not have been seen, nor would we have the data spring board to launch additional focused stories. The CALFED science program is tightly linked to IEP efforts, and the IEP provides the basic evolving scientific understanding of the Bay-Delta ecosystem; what makes it tick and how it can be protected.



Left: DWR marine engineer **Robert Hamilton** works on one of the two San Carlos engines.

Below: **Steve Cowdin** working on the model of the original San Carlos.

“Then Moraga and his officers took formal possession in the name of the sovereign and with discharges of cannon by the San Carlos and the shore batteries, and volleys of musketry from the troops, the City of San Francisco was born.”

(From “the beginnings of San Francisco” by Zoeth Skinner Eldredge, 1912)

Marine engineer **Robert Hamilton** has been chief mechanic on the San Carlos for eight years. “When I first came to the Department,” says Hamilton, “my boss at DWR’s Mobile Equipment Office asked if I knew anything about marine applications. I said that’s what I’d been doing for three years in the Army Reserve...and the San Carlos became my baby.”

Bob also works on land based DWR equipment and says it’s not always easy to book maintenance time on the San Carlos, especially when she’s berthed in Antioch. With the boat temporarily in Sacramento, Hamilton was able to lavish much more attention than usual on the 30-year-old queen of the Delta.

“There’s a lot of work to be done,” he says. “We’re trying to bring her back up to A-one ship shape condition, adequately powered and safe, watertight vessel so she’s safe and reliable to take out for a couple of days or nights. After the refit is finished, the San Carlos will be completely seaworthy. I wouldn’t be

San Carlos Model

The original Spanish “paquebot” San Carlos was one of those little mystery ships that quietly came and unceremoniously went after leaving its mark on history. Confirming details that accurately tell us just what kind of ship she was is not easy.



Considerable searching through historical records by maritime sleuths tells us the San Carlos was built on the banks of the Santiago River 26 miles from San Blas, New Spain (now Mexico), in 1767.

While a number of drawings exist, including the one by Walter Francis, there is considerable conjecture over what the ship actually looked like. One museum has two pictorial versions, one depicting her as three-masted and lateen rigged, the other as a two-masted square rigger. Several popular paintings even show her as a 17th century galleon.

Former Drake Navigators Guild President Ray Aker (3/10/1920-1/4/2003) performed extensive research on the San Carlos and determined that she was built as a brigantine (two masts) with a lateen sail as a main course, which was later converted to square rigging (technically known as a “snow”). He first believed the San Carlos was an armed merchantman with a plain bow but later became convinced that she was a naval vessel with beakhead and figurehead.

One thing is evident from ship’s logs and other accounts: she was not the most weatherly of craft, even for her day. On several occasions, she had been hard pressed to complete her



The San Carlos high and dry at Svendsen's to get her bottom redone.



afraid to take her out in the middle of the ocean for some fishing. I know she'd bring me back."

Skipper Eric Santos says the engines should be good for another five years or so. Then, who knows. "There's been talk about eventually replacing the whole boat," he says. "I'd hate to see her go...she's a nice-looking boat. But, sometimes things just have to be retired."

annual trips to the California missions. Her shallow draft, good for entering harbors and estuaries, made life on the open seas difficult.

One of the best depictions of the San Carlos is a scale model built by Steve Cowdin of DWR's Economic Analysis Section. In the late 90s, former DWR Director David Kennedy asked Cowdin to construct the model for display in the Director's Conference Room.

Steve based his design on blueprint-type plans drawn by Aker after his research on the ship and spent about a year on his painstaking recreation. "Initially, the hardest part," he says, "was finding plans and other information (such as the color scheme), but I obtained Mr. Aker's drawings and that really helped the project along. As far as the actual modeling goes, doing the plank-on-frame hull construction was probably the most difficult aspect."

Steve used limewood for the first planking...followed with a layer of walnut. Other woods were employed for the superstructure, masts and other parts of the ship.

"Getting the small details right was tedious and time-consuming," he says, "but the final product was worth the effort. I got welcome help on the sails from my wife, Aileen (a former DWR Personnel Analyst). She sewed them from muslin stock."

"The San Carlos sailed away from San Francisco Bay on September 18th, losing sight of land at the distance of a pistol shot because of heavy fog. She returned later, and for several more years served staunchly in the coast supply service. But eventually she was dispatched to the Philippines with important news; and being too small and frail to attempt the rigorous return trip, she was exiled forever in the western islands."

(California History Nugget, January 1929)

Steve was seven or eight years old when he made his first ship model. "We lived in Los Angeles and my parents used to take us kids to the port as an inexpensive entertainment. I developed a fascination for the ships berthed there...observed them closely...and the models followed."

Cowdin figures he's made hundreds of models, all kinds, including modern aircraft carriers and destroyers as well as sailing ships. Some were sold for display in navy base museums such as Patriot's Point Maritime Museum in Charleston, South Carolina, the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida, and the Musee Naval in Monaco.

His model of the San Carlos is now on display in a glass case at the far south end of the Resources Building lobby.



Howard Berman provides information about the San Luis Reservoir to passing tourists.

VISITOR CENTERS *at San Luis, Oroville* *showcase Regional Facets of SWP*

By Pete Weisser

Photos by DWR Photography Unit

DWR's visitor centers at San Luis Reservoir and Lake Oroville give Californians and tourists two distinctly regional views of the State Water Project.

Perched snugly on a ridge above San Luis Reservoir—largest offstream reservoir in the United States—the Romero Overlook Visitors Center focuses on the unique federal-State partnership in storage and use of San Luis. It provides a mid-system look at the aqueducts and canals of the SWP and federal Central Valley Project, at a point where the two systems conjoin their mostly separate operations, in the Western San Joaquin Valley.

Right off State Highway 152 and just eight miles west of ever-busy Interstate 5, the superhighway linking Mexico and Canada, San Luis is easily accessible for drop by visitors, despite a remote and lonely geographic setting at the foot of the Diablo

Mountain Range and historic Pacheco Pass. It's a one-man tourist attraction. Howard Berman, a DWR guide for over 30 years, is the lone host and tour guide on duty. And it's a part-time operation, open five days, including weekends, but closed Wednesdays and Thursdays.

About 200 miles North, the Oroville Visitors Center—set on a pine-forested ridge looming above Lake Oroville—architecturally resembles an upscale resort lodge, offering roomfuls of historic displays describing the construction of Oroville Dam and exhibits documenting the SWP's operations and impacts, plus a sweeping view of mighty Lake Oroville from a 47-foot viewing tower. The spacious Oroville center focuses on the historic and operational aspects of Lake Oroville, in many respects the birthplace of the SWP, as well as its Northern California operational heartbeat.

Located on Kelly Ridge, the Lake Oroville Visitors Center is staffed by personnel from both DWR, which operates the State Water Project, and the State Department of Parks and Recreation, which oversees recreation at the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, with its many recreational attractions, including marinas and floating campsites. With more than 4 million visitors since its opening on May 26, 1973, the \$1 million center is a busy place in a quiet forested setting, open every day but Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Rosemary Martin, charming and vivacious, has been a Lake Oroville visitor guide since 1992. She leads DWR's visitor center staffing in partnership with personnel from the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Through 13 years, Rosemary has dealt with visitors from all over the nation and the world. She personifies DWR involvement in many Oroville special events and community celebrations, including Feather Fiesta Days and the annual salmon festival. She conducts water safety outreach programs to schools in the surrounding community. During salmon spawning season, Rosemary helps give tours at the Feather River Fish Hatchery.

To better serve deaf visitors, Rosemary has studied sign language and now provides sign language communications at the center. "The deaf and hearing impaired are so grateful to have someone sign to them," she reported, "even if sign language skills are limited."

Though more deeply staffed than San Luis, Oroville, like San Luis, boasts a special guide of many years' seniority. **John Ford**, a stocky, expert and tireless tour leader for the SWP's Oroville facilities, has been a friendly official face for DWR at Oroville for three decades. In fact, as a boy, John watched Oroville Dam being built in the early 1960s, a spectacular project rivaling Hoover Dam in magnitude.

After working at Romero for six months early in his career, Ford joined the Oroville center staff in October 1974. He put in 17 years as a guide before moving on to his current assignment as Oroville tour coordinator, a job akin to safari guide at Disneyland, but with emphasis on water and the SWP rather than cartoon robots.

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The observation tower at the Oroville Visitor's Center provides an excellent view of the lake.





Howard Berman, tour guide at the Romero Visitors Center.

Tale of Two Centers

This, then, is the story of two DWR visitors centers, one in grassy, windswept foothills of the Diablo Range in Central California, the other in pine-forested Ishi country in Northern California where the upper Feather River lies buried under the tallest dam in the United States and where the SWP operates its largest storage reservoir and key powerplant.

(Two other SWP visitor facilities—a visitor area at Edmonston Pumping Plant and the Vista del Lago visitor center at Pyramid Lake—are closed. The Edmonston visitor area has been closed since Sept. 11, 2001. Vista del Lago closed due to landslide damage in March, 2005 after prolonged Southern California rains. Vista del Lago Visitor's Center is scheduled to open in November 1, 2006.)

It's also the tale of two men whose lengthy DWR careers and personalities are closely identified with their respective centers,

reflecting different portions and functions of the SWP and the special regional flavor and historic legacies of their locations. John Ford started with DWR in 1972 as a Youth Aid, working for \$1.80 an hour, never suspecting a 33-year DWR career lay ahead.

Howard Berman has been a tour guide at Romero Overlook Visitors Center since May 4, 1976, marking his 30th anniversary this year. Solitary as a lighthouse keeper in staffing the remote center, where rabbits, ravens and roadrunners are parking lot regulars, Howard does not lack for human company.

Berman estimates that 4.5 million visitors have stopped by the visitor center in the 34 years since it opened in 1972, a few years after the reservoir complex was completed.

While the rugged Pacheco Pass was notorious in Old California as a stagecoach robbing haven for such desperadoes as Three-Fingered Jack and Joaquin Murietta, State Highway 152 now provides easy motoring for RV navigators—except when Silicon Valley commuters crowd the route linking their jobs with valley bedroom towns.

Born in New York State, educated in public schools in Syracuse, Berman's speech still hints of his New York origins. He came to California in 1965 while serving in the Air Force, on a transfer from Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB), in New York State, to Vandenberg AFB, near Lompoc. After his discharge in 1966, he moved to Los Angeles, attending college at California State University at Northridge. In 1972, he graduated with a degree in history. In 1974, he joined DWR as a tour guide at Castaic Lake, one week after his wedding on July 7.

"When I went to work for DWR I was making about \$4.20 an hour," Berman recalled. "I thought I was rich."

Three decades later, Howard and Kay Berman have paid off their home in nearby Los Banos. Like Howard, the career of his wife, Kay, is also tied to water: She works in the financial unit of the San Luis Water District in Los Banos, a 12-employee district that uses CVP water.

For most of Howard's career, he worked alongside Eva McClelland, a DWR tour guide at San Luis Reservoir. They worked together from 1978 until Eva retired in 2004.



San Luis Reservoir looks flush with water after the winter storms in 2005-06

State and Feds Share Reservoir

San Luis is a special joint-use complex serving both the California SWP and the federal Central Valley Project (CVP). The SWP and CVP operate separate pumping plants in the South Delta and, for the most part, move their water through separate systems—the SWP using the California Aqueduct and the CVP transporting water via its Delta Mendota Canal. But they jointly use San Luis Joint Complex for storage.

The State and federal governments agreed in 1961 on integrated storing, pumping and conveyance facilities for State and federal water operations, with costs shared 55 percent State, 45 percent federal.

San Luis Reservoir has a storage capacity just over 2 million acre-feet (2,027,840 acre-feet). The CVP capacity in San Luis is 965,660 acre-feet. The State capacity is 1,062,180. San Luis is a large reservoir with a 65-mile shoreline and a surface area of 12,520 acres, with a maximum depth of just over 270 feet.

The reservoir was created by construction of B. F. Sisk Dam (named for a Fresno congressman, Bernice F. Sisk, who was a

strong advocate and supporter of CVP water development in California). Sisk Dam is 18,600 feet long and 385 feet high.

President John F. Kennedy joined Governor Edmund G. (Pat) Brown on August 18, 1962 in official groundbreaking ceremonies for San Luis. Sepia photos and closed loop film footage on display at the Romero Overlook center recall this historic moment, when Kennedy said he was glad to be able to help “blow up your valley for the cause of progress.”

Construction of Sisk Dam (and the nearby O’Neill Dam to create O’Neill Forebay) was begun in 1963 and completed in 1967. Water was first pumped into San Luis Reservoir in April 1967. The reservoir was filled for the first time on May 31, 1969.

San Luis Eases Deliveries

San Luis Reservoir’s location and joint system use provides both the CVP and SWP with extra operational flexibility. Delta flows are stored in San Luis for eventual delivery to federal and State customers on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley, SWP customers in Southern California and the federal San Felipe

>>> [continued on next page](#)



Project serving San Benito and Santa Clara counties. When aqueduct repairs interrupt flows north of San Luis, both systems can continue to deliver water out of San Luis.

Delta water reaching San Luis flows first into the O'Neill Forebay, with a capacity of just over 56,000 acre-feet. Then it's pumped into San Luis Reservoir for storage via the Gianelli Pumping-Generating Plant, located between O'Neill Forebay and the reservoir. When water is due for delivery, it is sent on to customers.

The pumping plant is named in honor of **William R. Gianelli**, DWR Director under Governor Ronald Reagan from 1967-1973. Gianelli is credited with completing the initial phases of the State Water Project and making first SWP water deliveries to Southern California. Now 87, Gianelli is an occasional visitor at San Luis from his home in Pebble Beach. He donated a collection of his career memorabilia for a display at the Romero visitor center.

The visitor center uses videotape presentations, photos, graphic wall displays, movies and slide shows to describe the reservoir, as well as both the SWP and CVP systems. Telescopes outside on a walk overlooking the reservoir provide great viewing of the reservoir, which also offers boating, fishing and windsurfing recreation opportunities.

Trophy quality fishing is available in the nearby O'Neill Forebay, with striped bass heading the list.

Howard proudly notes that the world record fresh water striped bass—67 pounds 8 ounces—was caught in O'Neill Forebay. State Department of Fish and Game records document that it was caught there on May 7, 1992. Boating, swimming, jet ski and water ski recreation and camping are also available there.

John Ford Saw Oroville Built

With **John Ford** as its best known and senior tour guide, DWR's Lake Oroville visitors center offers recreational information, videotape and photographic displays describing the construction of Oroville Dam in the 1960s, creation of Lake Oroville, the major Northern California storage reservoir for the SWP and operation of the project.

Lake Oroville, 75 miles north of Sacramento, can be reached easily via State Highway 70 or US 99. Tallest dam in the nation at 770 feet, Oroville Dam commands a panoramic view of the upper Sacramento Valley, including the Sutter Buttes. With a capacity of 3.5 million acre-feet, Lake Oroville is the SWP's major storage reservoir.

Then-Governor Ronald Reagan presided at ceremonies marking completion of the dam in 1967. The Hyatt Powerplant under the dam generates a significant portion of the electricity used by the SWP in moving water through the 701-mile system.

John grew up on a ranch about five miles south of the lake site and watched the dam built and the lake created.

"As a boy growing up during the construction of the Oroville project in the 1960s, it was a big deal to take visiting friends and family up to one of the construction overlooks to see how the dam was progressing," John recalls. "I used to buy matchbox toy trucks and tractors because the heavy equipment dumping, spreading and compacting the material to build the dam looked like little toys."

Today, he and his wife, Angel, live in Oroville, with their two dogs and one cat, just two miles from his boyhood ranch home. "My Dad, at 83, still calls on me to help with chores at the ranch."

Now the lake is a recreational magnet in the Upper Sacramento Valley. A variety of campgrounds around the lake's 167-miles of shoreline is available, as are Lake Oroville's special attractions, floating campsites, two-story platforms anchored in scenic coves. As Ford notes, most recreational facilities at the lake are within the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, run by State Parks. For camping information at Lake Oroville, you can call State Parks at (530) 538-2200. Reservations are available by calling Reserve America at 800-444-7275.

"Lake Oroville offers a year-round, varied menu of recreational attractions," said Ford. "Fishing, boating, swimming, camping, hiking, equestrian activities and bike riding are all on tap."

Fishing for Salmon and Bass

Fishing is a great attraction at Lake Oroville, with both warm water and cold water species available for anglers. Bass fishing at the lake is typically excellent in early summer. Numerous bass fishing tournaments are held at the lake. Last fall, more than 60,000 catchable size coho salmon were planted in Lake Oroville.

During 2005, lucky anglers set two new Lake Oroville records for coho salmon, according to **Eric See**, DWR fisheries biologist for the lake. In August, the first Lake Oroville record salmon was caught. That fish was a 9 pound 14 ounce coho, breaking the previous record of 9 pounds even. On Dec. 10, a new record fish, weighing just over 10 lbs. 2 ozs., was landed.

Starting usually in June, excellent summertime fishing for salmon and steelhead is available nearby along the Feather River. Angling is also available at the Oroville Wildlife Area.

Big Quake in 1975

John was on duty at Oroville Aug. 1, 1975, when a 5.7 magnitude earthquake shook the region, its epicenter just eight miles south of the visitor center.

"In a matter of seconds, it was over," recalled Ford. "However, those few seconds were intense. I thought the viewing tower was going to collapse." There were five people on the tower, he remembered. "Within the next few seconds, all the people came down off the tower. I don't think they hit a single step."

Feather River Hatchery

Ford conducts tours of Oroville Dam and also of the Feather River Fish Hatchery, located on the Feather River near downtown Oroville. The hatchery grows millions of salmon each year to enhance Feather River salmon populations.

Built by DWR to mitigate for loss of upriver spawning areas to dam construction, the hatchery is operated by the Department of Fish and Game. The hatchery offers a variety of educational

displays about the salmon life cycle. During the annual Feather River salmon Fall migration each September, the hatchery and nearby river offer vivid scenes of salmon activity.

"Lake Oroville is fun to visit, especially in summer," said Ford. "I get a big kick out of taking visitors onto the dam crest and showing them our big beautiful lake. Especially in a year like 2006 when water supplies are abundant our lake is pretty near full. There's a lot to see here, and I'm happy to welcome our visitors and make sure they see it all."

Ford and other DWR Oroville staffers work closely with Oroville civic, sports business and recreational entities to play an active role in Oroville community life, including the annual Feather Fiesta Days in May and the annual Oroville Salmon Festival in September.

The Oroville area is rich in history, including the pioneer legacy of African-American mountain man and explorer James Beckwourth, and the remarkable story of Ishi, last of his tribe of Yahi Indians. Discovered nearly starved in Oroville in August, 1911, Ishi became a living tutor on indigenous folkways for University of California anthropologist Alfred Kroeber early in the 19th Century. Natural beauty abounds also in the signature landmark of Table Mountain and in the spectacular 640-foot high Feather Falls, sixth highest waterfall in the United States, accessible near the lake and via a hiking trail.

For information on the Lake Oroville visitors center or to arrange a tour, call John Ford at the Oroville Field Division, at (530) 534-2306.

Another excellent source of information on recreation and activities at Lake Oroville and the surrounding region is the Oroville Area Chamber of Commerce Web site at www.lakeoroville.net

For information on the Romero Overlook Visitors Center at San Luis Reservoir, call Howard Berman at (209) 827-5353.



DWR'S APRIL 2006 STORMS RESPONSE AVERTED MAJOR FLOODING

by Pete Weisser

Photos by DWR Photography Unit

During April 2006, DWR used proactive levee work and skillful reservoir operations to avert major flooding along the rain-swollen San Joaquin River. It was a dramatic finale to one of California's wettest rainy seasons.

"We dodged a bullet," said **Les Harder**, Deputy Director for Public Safety, as DWR flood managers coaxed high stages of the San Joaquin River safely to the Delta through two tense weeks of around-the-clock floodwatch and flood prevention action.

In California's fifth wettest rainy season on record, heavy rains in late March and early April, especially in watersheds feeding the San Joaquin River, triggered a well-organized strategic response from DWR flood managers.

DWR issued a Flood Alert on April 3, putting the State-Federal Flood Operations Center on extended hours. On April 4, DWR, declared a Flood Mobilization, with teams dispatched to key points of concern in the field the following day. By April 6, crews were engaged in proactive levee bolstering at several sites within San Joaquin County and near Firebaugh in Fresno County, and saving Peachtree Dam, a small dam in Calaveras County. Other crews were placed on standby in the Delta.

For the next two weeks, field crews, aided by California Conservation Corps members, local OES staffers, public safety officials and Department of Corrections inmate crews, laid visquine, placed sandbags and built berms to strengthen suspect levees against very high flows in the San Joaquin River.

“The April flood response was similar in style to DWR’s December 2005-January 2006 flood activation. But the April mobilization focused chiefly on the smaller San Joaquin River flood system where more than 30 levees were breached during the record flood year of 1997, rather than the larger Sacramento River system. Two big storms hit the area April 2-4 and April 10-12.”

Among key repairs were those made on levees near Manteca, at Firebaugh, in the Lower San Joaquin Levee District and near the Chowchilla Bypass.

Bill Burkard and **Brian Smith** led two major incident command teams while **Rick Burnett** and other DWR flood fight specialists responded to widespread trouble spots.

Jay Punia, then-Chief of Flood Operations (now General Manager of The Reclamation Board) and **Gary Bardini**, Chief of Hydrology and Flood Operations, participated in daily weather, planning and media briefings at the State-Federal Flood Operations Center. Director **Lester Snow** closely monitored flood operations and provided liaison to the Governor.

The April flood response was similar in style to DWR’s December 2005-January 2006 flood activation. But the April mobilization focused chiefly on the smaller San Joaquin River flood system where more than 30 levees were breached during the record flood year of 1997, rather than the larger Sacramento River system. Two big storms hit the area April 2-4 and April 10-12.



Above: (L-R) Don Strickland and Pete Weisser of the Public Affairs Office responded to media inquiries about the flooding event at the Joint Operations Center.

Left: (L-R) Jay Punia, Chief, Flood Operations Branch and **Terri Fong**, Senior Engineer Specialist look at a map of Central Valley waterways.

Governor Schwarzenegger toured the Flood Center on April 10, voicing concern about Central Valley levees and the need to upgrade flood protection. He took a helicopter tour on April 13 to visit and encourage flood fight crews near Firebaugh. On April 10, he declared emergencies in seven counties—Amador, Calaveras, Fresno, Merced, San Joaquin, San Mateo and Stanislaus.

On April 13, he added nine more—Alameda, El Dorado, Kings, Marin, Placer, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Tulare and Tuolumne. (In January, the Governor had declared 34 states of emergency in 34 counties.)

[>>> continued on next page](#)



Inside the Flood Operations Center during the morning briefing.

Working closely with local OES chiefs and staff, DWR crews quickly bolstered suspected weak points in levees in San Joaquin County, and elsewhere, including near the Fresno County community of Firebaugh and the Chowchilla Bypass.

While work crews laid plastic sheeting and placed sand bags, hydrologists and reservoir operators coordinated releases from dams on San Joaquin tributaries.

Releases were carefully modulated to ease mainstem San Joaquin flows near Vernalis, where a major tributary, the Stanislaus, spills into the San Joaquin. These efforts attenuated mainstem San Joaquin flows, thus easing high stages past soggy levees to the Delta, without major flooding or severe levee breaches.

By April 20, the crisis had eased, flows abated and relatively dry weather arrived.

To prevent wave wash on sodden Delta levees, the California Department of Boating and Waterways closed portions of the Delta.



Above: A levee is reinforced with sandbags in anticipation of the rising waters.

Right: DWR employees manually operate the Sacramento weir to open its gates.

Below: A member of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection prison crew lays sandbags in the San Joaquin Valley.



State Water Contractors Profile—

Jeff Kightlinger, Colorado River Expert Is Newest GM for Water Giant MWD

by Pete Weisser

Jeff Kightlinger, an attorney with expertise in Western water law and experience in complex Colorado River negotiations, this year became the 13th general manager and chief executive officer of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

He succeeded **Dennis Underwood**, a respected water expert whose untimely death from cancer Nov. 2, 2005, at age 60, shocked and dismayed the water community. Underwood, a longtime MWD vice president, had been MWD GM for just seven months, after replacing **Ron Gastelum**, an attorney, who retired after five years.

Kightlinger, 46, was appointed in February 2006 to the top management post at MWD after serving as the water district's chief legal counsel for four years.

"His background in environmental and water rights negotiations will prove vital to the agency's future as we rise to the challenge in maintaining reliable water supplies from the Colorado River and Northern California, as well as seek out new transfer, storage and water management opportunities," said MWD Board Chairman **Wes Bannister**.

"This is an organization that I greatly respect for its legacy as a leader in Western water policy and decision-making," said Kightlinger, on being appointed.

"Leading Metropolitan allows me the opportunity to continue my career in public service and use my experience in managing and addressing diverse water and environmental issues that continue to challenge the district and its member public agencies."

As GM, Kightlinger is responsible for implementing policies of MWD's 37-member board of directors. Metropolitan's top manager and chief spokesman, he works with MWD directors and staff, local, State and federal officials, and other water agencies to carry out the district's mission. That mission is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Metropolitan imports water from the Colorado River and via the SWP from Northern California to supplement local supplies. MWD also provides financial incentives to help local agencies develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other water management programs.

MWD has an annual budget of \$1.7 billion, 1,900 employees and more than 30 facilities in a six-county Southern California service area.

After his appointment by the MWD board (at an annual salary of \$260,000) was announced on Feb. 14, he told reporters he plans to lead MWD in a triple-pronged strategy to assure sufficiency of water supplies. He said he would protect Colorado River supplies, work to assure continued Northern California flows, and push for greater conservation and local supply projects, including desalination.

To assure reliable Delta exports, he said that MWD would encourage examining the possibility of a canal around the Delta, where, experts worry, levee failures could interrupt pumping.

On conservation, where MWD already plays a strong advocacy role, he said he will urge Southern Californians to cut outdoor water use while encouraging more recycled water use and desalination.

As MWD's lead attorney on Colorado River matters, he signed California's Quantification Settlement Agreement after marathon negotiations on that complex topic.

He also played a major role, working with Dennis Underwood, in developing a 50-year, multi-species habitat conservation program along the lower Colorado. Recently, he was a leading California negotiator on an agreement among seven Colorado River Basin states, adopting a comprehensive Colorado River drought contingency plan.

A native Californian, Kightlinger joined MWD in 1995 as a senior deputy general counsel. He served as assistant general counsel in 2000-2002. Prior to joining MWD, he worked in private practice, specializing in environmental law. He represented public agencies, including special districts and municipalities.

Kightlinger earned a bachelor's degree in history at the University of California at Berkeley and a law degree from the University of Santa Clara. He spent a year specializing in environmental law at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. while working for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



Water Leader Dennis Underwood, MWD Chief, Dies At Age 60

Western water expert **Dennis B. Underwood**, who led the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation before becoming chief of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, died on Nov. 2, 2005 after battling cancer.

Underwood was elected chief executive officer and general manager of MWD in April 2005, after playing a key role in negotiating several major Colorado water agreements on behalf of Metropolitan. He was the 12th CEO in Metropolitan's 78-year history.

Water industry leaders paid tribute to Underwood, citing his tireless, resourceful leadership and gentle, engaging personality. His legacy includes modernized, improved policies for water management and species protection for Colorado River supplies used in California.

"The water world has lost one of its most accomplished and humble leaders," said **Wes Bannister**, Metropolitan's board chairman. "The underlying theme of Dennis' entire career was to balance needs with grace."

"The water community has suffered a tremendous loss," said **Lester Snow**, Director of the Department of Water Resources. "Dennis was one of the most dedicated, compassionate and knowledgeable public servants I have ever had the pleasure to know and work with. His work ethic and commitment to balanced resource management made him a leader. His vision will be missed."

"Dennis Underwood was one of the great leaders in the modern history of the Colorado River," commented **John Keys**, former Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

As Metropolitan's vice president for Colorado River Resources, Underwood played a lead role in negotiating a historic agreement to bring California's water use in compliance with its legal apportionment for Colorado River supplies. He also helped create an innovative program to pay Palo Verde Valley farmers near Blythe to annually set aside a portion of their land, rotate crops and transfer saved water to urban Southern California.

Just prior to being named Metropolitan's CEO, Underwood helped negotiate one of the nation's largest habitat conservation programs, covering 27 species living along more than 450 miles of the lower Colorado River. This agreement covers the 50-year program that protects the storage, release and diversion of Colorado River water from Lake Mead to Mexico from interruptions because of endangered species issues.

Underwood's career in water resource development and management included outstanding service at both state and federal levels.

As Commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation from 1989 to 1993, he directed Bureau activities on water, energy, land, conservation, environmental protection and endangered species for 17 Western states. He oversaw a staff of 7,500 with a \$1.5 billion annual budget.

While directing Reclamation, Underwood sought to shift the agency's focus from project building to water resource management, produced a comprehensive water reuse initiative for Southern California and released Reclamation's Strategic Plan for the next century.

Underwood's Colorado River expertise was honed during his service as executive director and executive secretary for the Colorado River Board of California from 1978 to 1989. In this post, Dennis worked closely with stakeholders in the water and power resources of the vast Colorado River system, including the seven Colorado River Basin states and federal resource agencies.

He worked at DWR during 1966-1967 and 1969-1978. His DWR career was interrupted by military service in Vietnam with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He attained the rank of Captain.

In an article Underwood wrote, he said: "All of this experience has helped me to develop a strong negotiating tactic. I believe that you have to know the other person's rights and interests better than they do. Your integrity and credibility become priceless."

The National Water Resources Association had given Underwood a Distinguished Service Award during 2005. The association honored him posthumously at its national convention in Hawaii on Nov. 9-10, 2005, giving Dennis a Lifetime Achievement Award.

A New Englander, Underwood earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering at Norwich University, in Vermont.

Underwood took medical leave in October 2005, designating Debra C. Man, a well-known resources planner in Metropolitan's management, as acting CEO and general manager. She served in this interim capacity until February 2006, when Metropolitan's chief counsel, **Jeff Kightlinger**, was elected by the district board to become the district's 13th CEO and general manager. Underwood died at his home in the Southern California community of Alta Loma.

He is survived by his wife, Carmen; daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Ryan Dejournet of California; five brothers, Russell and Lawrence of Massachusetts, Rory of Vermont, Kevin of Maine, and Jeffrey of New Hampshire; and two grandsons.



Oroville Relicensing Signing

By Sue Sims

When the Department of Water Resources (DWR) joined with dozens of stakeholder groups on March 21, 2006 to sign the Oroville Relicensing Settlement Agreement, it marked the culmination of a six-year collaborative process to benefit recreational, environmental, cultural and operation resources associated with DWR's Oroville Facilities.

The agreement is part of the complex application process to obtain a new 50-year operating license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). DWR's current license expires in January 2007.

DWR deliberately chose a unique FERC licensing procedure, known as the Alternative Licensing Process, which seeks consensus with stakeholders on proposed operating conditions and impacts. Over 1,000 highly diverse stakeholders representing local interests and governments, resource agencies, water agencies, non-governmental organizations and Native American tribes were invited to help develop the proposed terms and conditions for a new license.

"This is a balanced solution that recognizes and protects the many interests of the Oroville facilities," said DWR Director **Lester Snow** during the signing ceremony at Kelly Ridge Conference Center overlooking Lake Oroville. "The agreement affirms that consensus is the best way to address complex resources challenges."



During the ceremony, DWR presented Oroville with a symbolic check for \$61 million to represent the investment that will be made to a community-controlled Supplemental Benefits Fund for various projects. Total cost of the settlement agreement to DWR is estimated at \$1 billion over the next 50 years, with nearly half of those funds targeted for recreational purposes.

DWR Deputy Director **Raphael A. Torres** noted that "managing the Oroville facilities is a dynamic process and relicensing is a landmark event that allows us to collaborate on a vision for the future."

The agreement proposes new measures for managing license conditions, recreation, environmental interests and historical properties. These initiatives will respond to community

interests for robust and high-quality recreation experiences, protecting and enhancing fishery resources, increasing wildlife habitat, and enhancing cultural resources with input from Native Americans and other interested parties. The agreement also addresses financial responsibility for the proposed projects.

Oroville Mayor Gordon Andoe hailed the agreement's far-reaching benefits, saying it is likely to "have more direct and

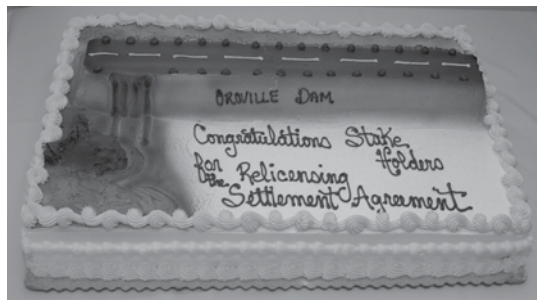
positive impact on Oroville than the actual construction of Oroville Dam."

One reason

is funding specifically earmarked to pay for the proposed benefits to the community and the region. Another reason is that community groups have been given a strong role in the decision-making process for recreational, environmental, and land use programs.

The signed agreement was filed with FERC for its consideration in issuing a new operating license for the facilities, which include Oroville Dam, Hyatt Powerplant, Thermalito Diversion Powerplant, and the Thermalito Pumping-Generating Plant.

DWR's Oroville facilities are a multi-purpose project with many beneficiaries. One of the primary purposes is to store and deliver water at an affordable price. State Water Project (SWP) water is delivered to the 29 public agencies that are its long-term contractors in Northern California, the San Francisco Bay area, the San Joaquin Valley, the Central Coast and Southern California. Water is also used to control salinity in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to benefit fish and wildlife, and for other environmental protection measures. Another important regional benefit is flood control. Since its construction, the Oroville Dam has proved invaluable in protecting human life and property during major storms.



Oroville Dam Receives Special Honor

An enthusiastic group of stamp collectors gathered at Oroville Dam over Memorial Day weekend to be the first in line to view the new Oroville Dam stamp. Part of

the "Wonders of America: Land of Superlatives" series, Oroville's inclusion is a triumph not only for local collectors but DWR tour guide **John Ford**.



The series illustrates some of America's biggest, tallest, and most notable wonders. At 770 feet high, Oroville Dam was chosen to grace the face of a stamp because of its height. Said Ford, "It's very special we got included in this because it recognizes the fact that Oroville Dam is tallest in the nation—not the tallest earthen dam—but the tallest dam. It doesn't need to be qualified." Ford said he has worked to spread this message for 30 years.

Oroville Postmaster **Joan Cooper** presided over the ceremony at which DWR Deputy Director **Raphael A. Torres**, Ford, Sacramento Postmaster **Ralph Petty**, postal carrier **Alan Skuba** and a representative from Congressman John Doolittle's office, **Chris Parilo**, spoke.

The Oroville stamp is a posterized photo of the dam with the words "Tallest Dam" emblazoned in the upper right. John Ford helped with the design created from a photo from the Department's archives. Though DWR provided the photo, the department did not make a bid to be included in the stamp series. The Postal Service chose the dam in a process of elimination that took about a year.

The unveiling and release of the stamp was enhanced by a custom cancellation mark created by rural postal carrier and artist **Alan Skuba**. That cancellation was available for sale through June 2006, and depicted a cartoon of salmon migrating from the hatchery to the ocean and back.

DWR Celebrates Water Awareness Month for 2006 Themes are the 50th Anniversary and Wise Water Use

By Pete Weisser

"Happy 50th Birthday, DWR" and "Use Water Wisely" were twin themes for the 2006 observance of May as Water Awareness Month in California.

The Department of Water Resources, created by the Legislature in 1956 when Goodwin J. Knight was governor, celebrated its 50th anniversary with two major events in Sacramento on Wednesday, May 31.

On the West steps of the Capitol at noon, **Rita Schmidt Sudman**, Executive Director of the Water Education Foundation said a few words about DWR, and introduced former DWR Directors **Ron Robie**, **Linda Adams** and **David Kennedy**. They described DWR's accomplishments, including its design, construction and operation of California's State Water Project. Other guest speakers included Resources Secretary **Mike Chrisman**. After the Capitol event former and current DWR employees attended a reception at the newly restored Stanford Mansion. Robie, who presided over DWR's 25th Anniversary party while he was Director, said at the 50th, "My heart overflows with memories." Kennedy relayed to the attendees a congratulatory message from **William R. Gianelli**, at 87 the senior former DWR Director. Kennedy paid tribute to Gianelli, DWR Director from 1967 to 1973, as an advocate and example of distinguished public service.

May marked the 19th annual observance of Water Awareness Month, advocating the consistent theme "Use Water Wisely." Though California water supplies this year are ample, thanks to a wet winter and high reservoir levels, prudent water use is a necessity to make maximum use of water supplies. Water Awareness Month developed in response to California's most recent statewide drought in 1987-1992.

Focus on Improving Flood Protection

This year, public attention is focusing on the need to improve California's flood protection, especially to upgrade and modernize aging levees in the Central Valley.



Keeping the momentum rolling during DWR's 50th anniversary year are (clockwise from top) Governor Schwarzenegger and Director Snow driving home the need for increased flood protection, revelers at a water awareness event, and former Director David Kennedy speaking at Capitol anniversary festivities.



"In 2006, we celebrate DWR's half century of service by leading the drive to reinvest in our flood protection infrastructure, an effort that will help safeguard our vital water supplies," said **DWR Director Lester Snow**. As noted in DWR studies, Delta levee collapses could affect water supply exports in both the State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project.

The Governor's Strategic Growth Plan would invest \$35 billion over the next decade to strengthen the flood management system and provide safe and reliable water supplies for California. Through bonds, his flood protection plan would provide \$2.5 billion for flood management—\$1 billion in



Retired Public Affairs Chief **Anita Garcia-Fante** (top left) chats with former O&M Chief and Retired Annuitant **Stephen Kashiwada** during DWR's Anniversary celebration at the Capitol and Stanford Mansion as (clockwise) former DWR Directors recall Department highlights at the Capitol's West Steps, former DWR Deputy Director **Larry Mullnix** and **Beverly Mullnix** visit the Stanford Home exhibits, and celebrants view historic photos at the Mansion.



2006 and \$1.5 billion in 2010. Another \$3.5 billion would be generated from federal and local governments for a total 10-year investment of \$6 billion to strengthen levees and flood systems.

Already underway is a DWR-administered program, under the Governor's Emergency Declaration to repair severely eroded levees.

Operated by DWR, California's State Water Project (SWP) provides a supplemental water supply for more than 23 million Californians and irrigation water for about 750,000 acres of farmland, as well as flows to benefit fish, water quality and the environment.

DWR is a leading water resource management and planning agency in California. It operates flood management and dam safety programs for public protection, performs water planning and works on Delta ecosystem and levee projects, as coordinated through the California Bay-Delta Program.

DWR Regional WAM Events

DWR marked Water Awareness Month with special events and activities at venues at or near SWP facilities, in addition to the Capitol 50th anniversary events.

There were three major WAM event at SWP facilities: the Edmonston Pumping Plant south of Bakersfield in Kern County on Thursday, May 11; in Oroville on Saturday, May 13; and at O'Neill Forebay near San Luis Reservoir in Merced County on Saturday, May 20.

The Edmonston event was an annual open house day at the pumping plant for students from selected schools in Kern County. Open by invitation only, it included a free fishing event, water conservation and water safety briefings, and information on the State Water Project and the Edmonston Pumping Plant role in moving SWP water over the Tehachapi Mountains into Southern California.

The 17th annual Kids' Fishing Day at O'Neill Forebay near San Luis Reservoir was open free of charge to young anglers, 15 and under. Fishing equipment and a lunch were provided. The Saturday event featured fishing with prizes for young anglers.

In Oroville, DWR employees staffed an activities booth with a fishing simulator in a downtown location, as part of the Oroville Feather Fiesta Days events on Saturday, May 13. The Feather Fiesta Days took place this year on May 4-14.



Crane Operators Undergo

By Amy Norris

The Department of Water Resources maintains and operates approximately 701 miles of canals and pipeline along with 57 plants and storage facilities. Skilled heavy equipment operators play an integral role in helping DWR meet water deliveries, assure water quality within the SWP, and provide flood protection. Used every day somewhere within the Department, the crane is one of the most important and most difficult pieces of machinery to operate.

Though there are different types, the basic function of every crane is the same: to pick up heavy objects and move them to a different location. **Don Arnett**, Utility Crafts Assistant Superintendent in the San Luis Field Division, lists a variety of jobs that might take place on any given day somewhere along the SWP. "We lift pumps, motors, remove and place flood gates, hatch covers, various pieces of equipment such as compressors or welders. We use cranes to remove silt from drain ditches, to set radial gates and stop logs to stop the water flow."

Though the Department has been responsible for training and certifying its own crane operators in the past, Cal OSHA imposed new rules as of June 1, 2005. That means even the most experienced operators need to take qualifying exams to do their jobs. Every crane operator must pass a physical and a drug test, then log 1000 hours of experience, either through previous crane operation or training. The candidates must pass a 75-question multiple choice test, and at least one specialty test with questions geared for the specific type of crane that will be operated. Next comes the field test. Imagine maneuvering a one-ton suspended load through an S-curve demarcated by pylons with tennis balls balanced on top. The load can't touch the ground, and neither can the tennis balls—and there's a time limit. On average, it takes two tries for most crane operators to pass the field test.

Arnett operated cranes for 12 years and proctors the exam along with union personnel. He says, "The most difficult aspect of any crane is the knowledge you need to have to operate it safely and properly: knowing what the crane is capable



Tim Crawford, SLFD Utility Craftworker operates some heavy machinery.



The crane operator obstacle course.

Rigorous Certification

of doing, its capacities and limitations and being aware of your surrounding area.” Considerations include power lines overhead, pipelines below, and whether the subsoil is capable of holding not only the crane, but the load. “Once the load is in the air, the operator has full responsibility for the safety of the lift and everyone around it.”

The most difficult crane to operate is the 35-ton lattice boom link-belt by FMC, with a complex system of clutches and brakes. It requires more hand-eye-foot coordination, and is used for the heaviest lifts as well as “cleaning out major drain ditches with an attachment called a clam shell or a drag line bucket.”

“Each crane has a specific load chart attached to the crane. It’s like a bible. It gives you the radius, the boom length, the angle of boom, and the weight you can pick up at the radius,” said Arnett. A competent operator must be able to read and interpret these charts. The very design of a crane—it’s long boom jutting out for maximum leverage—causes instability. The greatest risk is tipping, and the load charts help to avoid what could be a deadly mistake.

Jeannie Love, Utility Crafts Superintendent at San Luis Field Division, applauds all of the employees in each of the field divisions who have been working towards their certifications. Fifty-five employees have received at least one certificate.

Said Love, “Our thanks and appreciation go to...**Don Arnett** and **Dennis Borrelli** who have been the instructors for SLFD along with **Johnnie Gomez**, **Joe Gonzalez**, **Ed Elliott**, and **Arnold Espinoza** from SJFD, and **John Couch** from DFD. They have done an outstanding job in training and preparing DWR employees for the exams. Labor Relations was instrumental in bargaining this with the Union and have been working closely with the Union. UCW Supervisors have also gone through a crash course to assist the Union members with the proctoring of the written and hands-on exams. We share the same goal: that of having a trained and qualified staff to operate and perform lifts with safety as the number one goal.”

Employees who have completed Crane Certification

Alvin Adair	James Newby
Martin Alvarado	James Patteson
Carlo Berardino	Mark Reimer
Dennis Borelli	Steve Reimer
Anthony Brooks	Monte Reyes
Darryl Caetano	Theodore “Ted” Skidgel
Amber Candela-Cooney	Steven Smith
Joshua Cleveland	Mike Souza
Irma Valarie Clevenger	Marc Sparks
Brian Colbrunn	Michael Talley
Timothy Crawford	Chris Thomas
George Diaz	Harold (Jim) Timmerman
Terry Ferreira	Curtis Trujillo
Gary Fifield	Valentine Vela
Shawn Freitag	Bobby Walker
Dennis Haller	David Williams
Steve Hawks	Ike Williamson
William Haywood	Jason Williamson
Michael Hindman	Ron Wolfe
Stephen Hogan	Stanley Worchester
James Hughey	
Ronald Jackson	
David Johnson	
Charee Keenan	
Kenneth Ketcher	
Dean Lara	
Jess Lara	
Leroy Lindo	
Brian Mahan	
Mathew Martin	
Robert Mills	
Garth Moore II	
Jeremiah Morrell	
Keith Murray	
Kevin Nelson	

DWR Helps Dedicate Oroville's Riverbend Park

By Don Strickland

"The Department is very proud and honored to be a part of this," said DWR Deputy Director **use Raphael A. Torres** at the May 5 dedication of Oroville's Riverbend Park. "I know the park has been a dream for the people of Oroville for a long time and the State Water Contractors and DWR are happy to help make that dream come true."

The dream referred to by Torres dates back to the early 1970s when the area, also known as "West Park", was included in a planning initiative called the Feather River Enhancement Project. Funding was not available, however, and the dream went into a long hibernation.

DWR's Oroville Facilities Relicensing Project provided a reawakening. Although Riverbend Park is outside the Oroville Facilities boundaries, DWR supported the park concept as a way of showing its goodwill to the community where the largest State Water Project (SWP) reservoir is located.

Phase 1 construction of improvements to the existing Riverbend Park began after the State Water Contractors (SWC), DWR, the City of Oroville, Feather River Recreation and Park District (FRRPD), and American Rivers, signed an agreement to get the park project started. Groundbreaking followed in the spring of 2005.

Park visitors will see such additions as an arched entryway with the logo "Catch the Dream," faux cobblestone streets, new paved parking areas, a restroom facility, three shaded picnic ramadas, picnic tables, a boat launching ramp, a rock climbing structure, a water fountain, a sand play area, and walking trails.

To date, the DWR/SWC Riverbend contribution has totaled \$5.2 million. The Department of Boating and Waterways has contributed \$917,000, FRRPD \$272,000, Fish and Game Wildlife Conservation Board \$250,000, and Butte County and the City of Oroville \$100,000 each. FRRPD Interim General Manager **Bob Sharkey**, who's also an Oroville City Councilman, said the park

DWR's Oroville Facilities Relicensing Project provided a reawakening. Although Riverbend Park is outside the Oroville Facilities boundaries, DWR supported the park concept as a way of showing its goodwill to the community where the largest State Water Project (SWP) reservoir is located.



represents a new beginning for Oroville as more construction phases are completed and other community projects begin. "You see 'Catch the Dream' on the entrance gate," said Sharkey, "and I hope everyone will catch the dream."

Future plans for Riverbend include an aquatic facility with an Olympic-size swimming pool and waterslides, restaurants, conference centers, and a science research and education center. Other projects discussed include an amphitheater and an upscale hotel.

As Deputy Director overseeing the SWP, Torres was the highest-ranking DWR executive attending the 1 p.m. dedication—which signaled the long-anticipated public opening of Oroville's newest park project and kicked-off a busy agenda of park activities, including the week-long "Feather Fiesta Days."

"I can honestly say that this is the best river park I've ever seen," said Torres, "and I know this is just the beginning of great things to come."



Above: Feather River Recreation and Park District General Manager **Bob Sharkey** cuts a ceremonial ribbon to officially open Riverbend Park. DWR Deputy Director **Raphael Torres** is third person on Sharkey's right.

Right: Sack lunches for attendees of the Riverbend Park grand opening. Oroville schoolchildren used crayons to decorate each bag.



DWR Retirees Annual Luncheon

On March 2, 2006, 162 members of the DWR alumni club attended a luncheon at the Elks Lodge in Carmichael. Guest speaker DWR Director Lester Snow discussed the State Water Project.



(L-R) Glee Valine, Bonnie Neal, and Irene Hernandez attended this year's luncheon.

Sacramento Area DWR Employees Support March of Dimes

On April 29, 2006, 44 walkers represented DWR at the State Capitol for the 36th annual March of Dimes WalkAmerica. More than 24,000 teams participate in this event nationally. The DWR team of Sacramento area employees, families, and friends joined some 4,000 walkers in the greater Capitol division. This year's 6-mile walk included many stroller pushers, family dogs, and a Shetland pony. DWR alone raised over \$10,000 for the March of Dimes, and the national total was over \$108 million. In addition to WalkAmerica, DWR's fundraising continued into July with a Toyota Highlander hybrid vehicle raffle, used book sales, and other special events, and seasonal sales of the ever popular "Beanies for Babies." If you would like to help kick start DWR's 2007 March of Dimes events team, please contact 2006 Team Captain **Barbara Cross** at (916) 653-5150, or bcross@water.ca.gov.

About the March of Dimes: In 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt founded the March of Dimes to focus on the development of a polio vaccination. With steadfast commitment and heart-felt donations, his mission was accomplished. In the years since, the March of Dimes has taken on many other life-saving endeavors as part of its mission to ensure that all babies will have a healthy start in life. Premature births and low birth weight are the leading causes of newborn deaths. The money raised for WalkAmerica supports research and programs to find out how to prevent premature births and how to help families who experience it. In California, one in 10 babies is born pre-term, including some babies born to DWR families.



First Row (L-R): Henry Norris, Charlotte Norris, Amy Norris, Evan Norris, Karen Eggen, Barbara Cross, Anastasia Cross, Julian Barron, Broderick Cross, Alvin Prakash, Shivani Nath, and Shicha Chander. Standing (L-R): Darby Vickery and Barbara Vickery, Cliff Winston, Kathleen McDonnell, Donna Winston, Linda Woolridge, Margaret Lessman, Conny Anderson, Jim Lessman, Ruth Gali, Dottie Tarleton-Rush, Bill Pennington, Rebecca Barron, Cheryl Henderson, Y-Nhi Enzler, Vicky Stinger, Kathryn Murray, Floyd Brooks, Monica Cross, Faye Diefenthal, John Diefenthal, Mina Zamanian, Kuen Tsay, Teresa Clausen, and Sushil Arora. Not pictured: Anne Roth, Anne's family (grandchildren Rebeka 5 1/2, Avi 3 1/2 and Esti 9 mos., daughter Monica, friend Chuck), Tana Leigh Gabriel, and Patricia Romero.

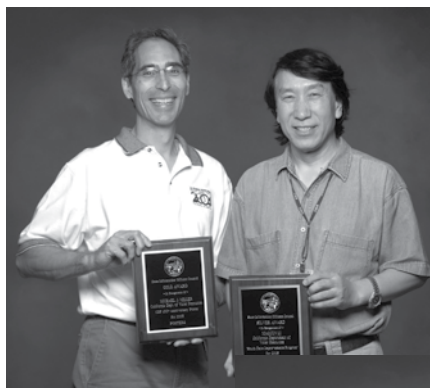
DWR Staff Honored at SiOC Awards Ceremony

The State Information Officers Council (SiOC) held its annual awards ceremony on May 2006 at the Dante Club in Sacramento, and three DWR projects were honored.

In the Special Projects – Poster Category, **Mike Miller** of the Public Affairs Office won the gold award for his CDF 100th Anniversary Poster.

In the Reports Category, **Xiaojun Li** of the Public Affairs Office won the silver award for his “South Delta Improvements Program” report.

In the Brochure Category, **Kamyar Guivetchi**, **Marilee Talley** of DPLA and **Christopher Sanchez** of the Public Affairs Office won the gold award for the “California Water Plan Highlights” brochure.



*(L-R): Mike Miller
and Xiaojun Li.*



*(L-R): Kamyar Guivetchi,
Christopher Sanchez
and Marilee Talley.*

DWR Employee wins prestigious Normal Medal

Erik Malvick, an Engineer, Water Resources with the Division of Safety and Dams, and his co-authors; Ramachandran Kulasingam (GeoSyntec Consultants Inc.), Ross Boulanger (UC Davis), and Bruce Kutter (UC Davis) will be awarded the 2006 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Norman Medal at the ASCE conference in Chicago later this year. The Normal Medal is the oldest and most prestigious award of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), initiated in 1872. The 2004 paper “Strength Loss and Localization at Silt Interlayers in Slopes of Liquefied Sand” published in the ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering was awarded the Norman Medal as a special commendation for its merit as a contribution to engineering science. This paper was authored as part of Erik’s work at UC Davis in support of his Doctorate in Geotechnical Engineering.





Front row (L-R): Darlene Quinn, Theresa Cuyar, Ruthie Velasquez, Margarita Luna, Jessica Roles, Lynne Esparza, Ruth Gali, Susan Williams, Brenda Hawthorne, Nannette Chester, Deanna Wilkes, Cathy Shannon. Middle row (L-R): Regina Ivory, Suzanne Carlson, Gia Barrera, Shelly Singh, Kristen Trejo, Kerri Price, Gareth B. Johnson, Chris Calhoun, Wanda Headrick, Raymonda Dulin, Monika Burtzlander, Sandra Jewell, Linda Sprecher, Olivia Moreno, Amy Norris. Back row (L-R): Ramona Malinowski, Karyn Cates, Dana Billy, Jennifer Herron, Janet Hayhurst, Cheryl Davis, Jennifer Davis, Lorraine Pendlebury, Mari McMahon, Tracy Redifer, Laura Christie, Shirley Tobias, Lupe Zamudio.

Training Article:

On August 24 and 25, 2005 the Training Office held the annual Training Coordinator Workshop. This workshop is scheduled in August every year so that the Training Coordinators will have the most current information and policies when they begin the year's Appraisal and Development program (A&D). Almost 50 of the of the Department's Training Coordinators attended the two day workshop to be advised

of the many changes and updates to the Department's Administrative Manual (DAM), as well as the many revisions to the forms used for training. The workshop also addressed the many questions surrounding the annual A&D program.

The Training Office depends upon the knowledge, experience and hard work of the Training Coordinators who attended the workshop, as well as the rest of the 70 Department Training Coordinators, to keep DWR's training programs and A&D program working smoothly.



DWR Retiree Wins Career Achievement Award

George Barnes, a retired DWR employee, was honored with the 2006 Career Achievement Award from the California Water and Modeling Forum at its annual meeting in February.

CWEMF is a non-profit organization whose mission is to increase the usefulness of computer models for water and environment in California. More than 100 different federal, State, and private organizations are represented in CWEMF.

Through this award, George was recognized for his significant contributions during his 35 years in the water resources field, including 11 years as Chief of the California Department of Water Resources' Modeling Support Branch where he directed the development and application of statewide operations, hydrodynamic and water quality models. The models have provided key information in support of numerous studies, including the California Water Plan, Bay-Delta Hearings and CALFED Alternatives. George began his career with DWR in 1965 and retired in 2000. Past recipients of this award are **Maury Roos**, also of DWR, and **Lyle Hoag**.

2005 Volunteer Trainers

Derrick Adachi	Robert Duffy	Karina Kugel	Greg Rowsey
Bruce Agee	Marilyn Evans-Jones	Curtis Lannom	Sharin Schellbach
Judy Alexander	Hallie Fisher*	Blaine Laumbach	Deanna Sesso
Vince Alvidrez	Sid Fong	Marilyn Lee	Fariba Shahmirzadi
Don Arnett	Sonny Fong	Shannon Lee	Brian Smith
Lynne Baker	Myra Galvez	Bill Mahon	Garry Smith
Phyllis Banks*	Jennifer Geregthy	Isacc Manual	Gerald Snow
Rene Bayardo	James Gleim	Jim Martin	Ted Soderstrom
Cindy Beach	Johnnie Gomez	Chris Mattos	Mark Soto
Susie Beesley	Maria Gomez	Randall McBride	Harry Spanglet
Mary Ann Benny-Sung	Joanna Gonzales	Angel Melendez*	Mark Storz
Jodie Benson	David Gonzalez	Sheryl Moore	Ward Tabor
Mike Bingaman	Joe Gonzalez	Elaine Morgan	Ernie Tapia
Dennis Borrelli	Linda Goodman*	Frank Nadal	Clay Tomas
Marla Burnett	Germaine Gordon*	Marge Nagel	Ron Thomas
Rick Burnett	Olivia Guebara	Chanda Nelson	Allen Thompson
Lynn Burns	Marina Guerrero*	Murage Ngatia	Craig Trombly
Susie Cano-Guzman	Lorie Hall	Brian Niski	Julie Van Der Volgen*
Jamie Cole	Ron Hall	Tina Nycum	James Veres
Judy Cole	Jon Hickey	Janis Offerman	Pedro Villalobos
Manerva Cole	Bob Highhill	Kim Oliphint	Peter Villanueva
Bill Collins	Jennifer Hogan	Jim Pearson	Curtis Wada
Rosi Corral	Xiaohong Huang	Stephanie Pettitt	Brian Wallace
Rhett Cotter	Michele Hughes	Herman Phillips	Pat Whitlock
Cathy Crothers	Bob Huss	Jaclyn Pimental	Richard Willoughby
Sharmane Daniels	Tina Johnson*	Ana Pina	Jean Witzman
Kimberly Deane	Bud Jones	Michael Placencia	Ron Wright
Christine Demes*	Brenda Journagan	Andy Pollak	Derek Yagi
Cosme Diaz	Kristie Joyce	Jay Punia	* Employee no longer works at DWR
George Diaz	Dave Kearney	Gwyneth Raymer	
Carol Digiorgio	Colleen Kirtlan*	Rob Riedlinger	
Jennifer Dong	Kathie Kishaba	Paul Romero	

DWR's 2005 Annual Awards

Each year, the Director presents awards to recognize Department individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department and to State Government in general. DWR congratulates the following award recipients.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD



Sue Sims

Recognized for her individual effort, management skills, and team leadership as the Assistant Director for Public Affairs.



Rick Soehren

Recognized for his commitment and management of California's natural resources as the Director's Policy Advisor.

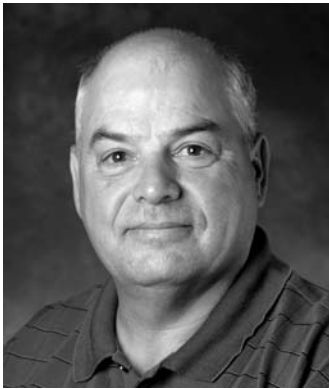
MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD



Leslie Pierce

Recognized for her leadership and dedication as Chief of the Fish Passage Improvement Program in the Division of Planning and Local Assistance.

OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Don Arnett
Utility Crafts Assistant
Superintendent, SLFD



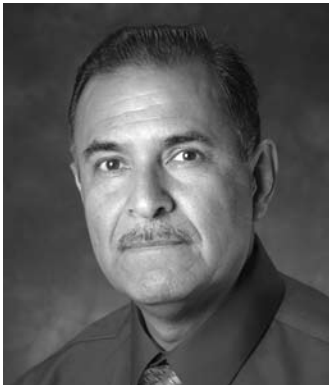
Dennis Borrelli
Water Resources Technician II,
DFD



John Carter
Designer III, PAO



Ed Elliott
Utility Craftworker Supervisor,
SJFD



Johnnie M. Gomez
Civil Maintenance, Utility
Crafts Supervisor, SJFD



Joe Gonzalez
Utility Craftworker Supervisor,
SJFD



Mark Lambert
Motion Picture Specialist, PAO

OUTSTANDING OFFICE SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD



Roslind Moses
Library Technical Assistant,
Office of the Chief Counsel

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Paul Dabbs
Supervising Engineer, WR,
Statewide Planning, DPLA



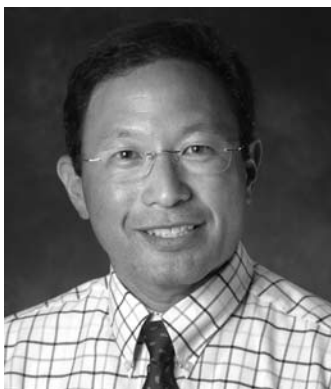
Bob Highhill
Chief, Labor Relations Office



Sue Larsen
Staff Services Analyst, SWPAO



James A. Lowe
Field Engineer, DOE



Robert M. Nozuka
Chief, Resources Assessment
Branch, CD



Janis Offermann
Senior Environmental Planner,
DES



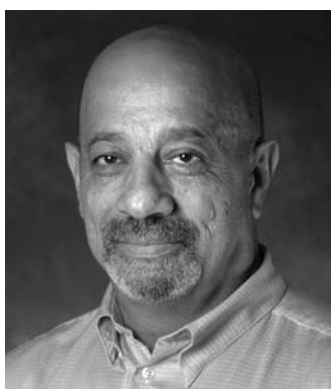
Andrew Pollak
Senior Staff Counsel, Office of
the Chief Counsel



David Rennie
Senior Engineer, WR, DOE



Russ Stein
Senior Environmental Scientist,
DES



Reza Tajeran
Chief, Electrical Engineering
Section, DOE



Vu Q. Thai
Engineer, WR, DOE



Pedro Villalobos
Supervising Hydroelectric
Power Utility Engineer, SWPAO

Not Pictured

Jeremy M. Arrich
Senior Engineer, WR, DFM

David Panec
Senior Engineer, WR, DSOD

Kuldip Atwal
Senior Mechanical Engineer,
DOE

Dorothy L. Benjamin
Chief, Water Education and
Administration Branch, PAO

Hong Chau
Senior Programmer Analyst
(Specialist), DTS

Congratulations to the following DWR graduates:

Apprentice Graduates



Rene Lune
Delta Field Division
Utility Craftsworker
December 2005



Guadalupe Martinez
Southern Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
November 2005



Jason Newton
Oroville Field Division
Utility Craftsworker
December 2005



Tahlia Orange
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Operator
December 2005



Jacob Oxider
Delta Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Operator
July 2005



Robert Williams
Delta Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
March 2005



Delfin Carreon
San Joaquin Field Division
January 2006

Not Pictured

Richard Barton
San Luis Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
June 2005

Israel Jr. Luna
Delta Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
December 2005

Sean Silva
San Luis Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
December 2005

Kimberly Lincoln
Southern Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
February 2005

John Irby
Southern Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
April 2005

Jesse Rios
Delta Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
December 2005

Lorraine Ventura
Southern Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
December 2005

Justin Robinson
Oroville Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
January 2006

Joe "Tony" Lemus
San Luis Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
November 2005

John Secrest
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
December 2005

Rafael Zabala
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic
December 2005

Simeon Milton
Delta Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrician
January 2006

Congratulations to the following DWR graduates:

Professional Engineer Graduates



Francis Chung
Bay-Delta Office
Principal Engineer
January 2006



Emin Can Dogrul
Bay-Delta Office
Operations Research
Specialist III
June 2005



Trevor Greene
Division of Environmental
Services
Engineer
June 2005



Mahmoud Mabrouk
Bay-Delta Office
Engineer
June 2004



Myint Thein
Bay-Delta Office
Engineer
June 2004



Nathanael Wales
Division of Planning and Local
Assistance
Engineer
June 2004



Jim Wilde
Bay-Delta Office
Engineer
June 2004

Not Pictured

Michael Moncrief
Engineer
Division of Flood
Management
January 2006

Professional Geologist Graduate



Tom Luttermann
Division of Planning and
Local Assistance
Engineering Geologist
March 2004

Twenty-five Years of Service



Sushil Arora
Supervising Engineer
Bay-Delta Office Hydro &
Operations
February 2006



Carlo Berardini
San Joaquin Field Division
June 2006



David Bogener
Staff Environmental Scientist
Northern District
June 2006



James Brantley
Supervising Engineer
Division of Engineering
July 2006



Stacy Cepello
Staff Environmental Scientist
Northern District
December 2005



John Chips
Operations and Maintenance
Mechanical Supervisor
December 2005



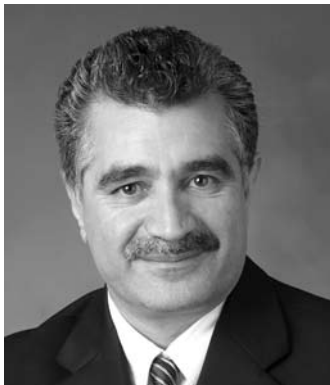
Francis Chung
Bay-Delta Office
Principal Engineer
January 2006



Mark Cowin
Division of Planning and Local
Assistance
Division Chief
January 2006



Deanna Denton
Associate Program
Governmental Analyst
Division of Flood
Management
May 2006



Farshid Falaki
Principal Electrical &
Mechanical Engineer
Hydraulic Structures
Division of Engineering
July 2006



Frank Farmer
Systems Software Specialist II
Division of Technology
Services
May 2006

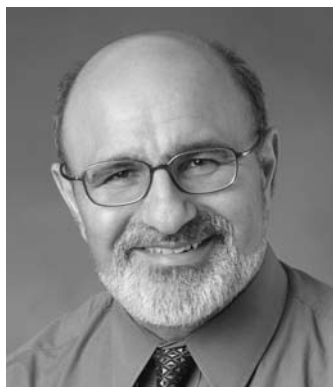


Dan Flory
Chief, SWAPO
SWAPO
November 2005

Twenty-five Years of Service *continued*



Michelle Ghiglia
Operations and Maintenance
Senior Water and Power
Dispatcher/Outages
November 2005



Kamyar Guivetchi
Division of Planning and Local
Assistance
Principal Engineer
December 2005



Gary Hankins
San Joaquin Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrical
Supervisor
February 2006



Tom Hawkins
Planning and Local Assistance
Senior Land and Water Use
Scientist
November 2005



Erich Heinbach
Office Technician
SWAPO
February 2006



Geraldine Higgs
Chief, EBSPO
Division of Technology
Services
May 2006



Dzung Hoang
Engineering
Construction Management
Supervisor
November 2005



Jan Holdaway
Hydroelectric Plant
Mechanic I
Southern Field Division
June 2006



Eric Hong
Planning and Local Assistance
Supervising Engineer
April 2006



Debbie Jackson
AGPA
Public Affairs Office



Russell Kiri
Management Services
Staff Services Manager II
April 2006



Anthony La Bon
Southern Field Division
Hydroelectric Plant Electrical
Supervisor
November 2005



David Lane
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
SWAPO
August 2006



Brian Mahan
Utility Craftworker, WR
San Joaquin Field Division
June 2006



Edward Mentz Jr.
Delta Field Division
June 2006



David Mills
Delta Field Division
Water Resources Technician II
January 2006



Clarice Moody
Engineering
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
February 2006



Kathryn Murray
Office Assistant (General)
Management Services Division
July 2006



Eugene Palilla
Senior HEP Operator
Southern Field Division
December 2005



David Parker
Senior Programmer Analyst
(Supervisor)
Division of Flood
Management
May 2006



Jay Punia
Flood Management
Chief, Flood Operations
Branch
March 2006



Eric Senter
Statewide Data Management
May 2006

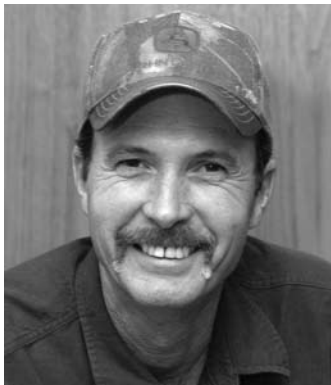


Richard Thrasher
Operations and Maintenance
Water and Power Dispatcher
January 2006



Carolyn Tucker
Public Affairs Office
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
February 2006

Twenty-five Years of Service *continued*



Forest Tull
Maintenance Mechanic
Oroville Field Division
July 2006



Stephen Valdez
Water Resources Tech. 11
Water Operations
Delta Field Division
May 2006



Richard Willoughby
Field Project Inspector
Division of Flood
Management
June 2006

Not Pictured

Carmen Borelli
Water Resources Engineering
Associate (Supervisor)
San Luis Field Division
February 2006

Diane Bowlan
Associate Information Systems Analyst
Division of Technology Services
November 2005

Andy Guzman
Control System Technician II
San Luis Field Division
December 2005

Susan Haight
Senior Land Agent (Supervisory)
Division of Engineering
January 2006

Mike Hernandez
Hydroelectric Plant
Mechanic II
Southern Field Division
October 2005

Dave Kennard
Water Resources Engineering
Associate (Specialist)
Division of Flood Management
May 2006

Susanna Kong
Systems Software Specialist II
(Technical)
Operations and Maintenance
October 2005

Kurt Kovac
San Joaquin District
Senior Engineer
January 2006

David Leask
Electrical Mechanical Testing
Technician II
San Joaquin Field Division
October 2005

Mohsen Nasser
Associate Electrical Engineer
Division of Flood
Management
October 2005

Marilea Patrick
Administrative Officer II
Central District
July 2006

Iris Yamagata
Senior Engineer, Water Resources
Division of Planning and Local
Assistance
January 2006

40 Years of Service



Raymond Heard
Senior Hydroelectric Plant
Operator
Operations and Maintenance
January 2006

Not Pictured

Nirmal Cheema
Associate HEP Utility Engineer
Delta Field Division
October 2006

Ronald Hopkins
Division of Engineering
Transportation Supervisor
November 2005

New Hires

Clifford Abihai
HEP* Electrician Apprentice
Southern Field Division

Robert Adams
Utility Craftworker
San Luis Field Division

James Agnew
Senior Seismologist
Operations and Maintenance

Shereta Alexander
Staff Services Manager I
Management Services

Ira Alexander
Water Resources Technician I
Northern District

Kenneth Andrade
Utility Craftworker
San Luis Field Division

Stacy Aylesworth
Chemist
Environmental Services

Ariyaputhirar Balakrishnan
Engineer, WR
Safety of Dams

Kent Beavers
HEP Mechanic I
Delta Field Division

Jesus Bonilla
HEP Mechanic Apprentice
Southern Field Division

Joseph Boyce
Engineer
Safety of Dams

Tiffany Brown
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services

William R. Brackney
Electrical Engineer
O & M Headquarters

Gabrielle Brown
HEP Operator Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

Ronald Brunner
HEP Operator Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

Charles Brush
Operations Research
Specialist II
Bay-Delta office

Deserie Campos
Personnel Specialist
Management Services

Neil Carter
HEP Mechanic I
San Joaquin Field Division

Lisa Carter
Office Technician (Typing)
Management Services

Sylvia Cates
Staff Counsel
Executive

Shicha Chander
Engineer
Central District

Robert Charney
Enginner
Flood Management

John Clark
HEP Mechanic Apprentice
Oroville Field Division

Scott Clarke
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

Teresa Clausen
Office Assistant (Typing)
SWP Analysis Office

Kristine Clerico
Office Assistant (Typing)
San Joaquin Field Division

Felipe Cuevas
Utility Craftworker
Flood Management

Jeremy E. Deffner
Office Technician (Typing)
CERS

Mark Dobbs
HEP Electrician Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

Kathleen Doberneck
Accounting Officer
Fiscal Services

Angela Dominguez
Office Technician (typing)
California Energy Resources
Scheduling

Anthony Domoto
Materials and Stores Specialist
San Luis Field Division

Colin Doran
Engineer
Engineering

Ricky Doung
Engineer
Flood Management

Joel Dudas
Engineer
Flood Management

Robert Dudley
Utility Craftworker
Flood Management

Tracy J. Eannetta
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic I
Delta Field Division

Leslie K. Emery
Office Assistant (Typing)
Management Services

Muzaffar Eusuff
Engineer
Flood Management

Tasmin Eusuff
Engineer
Planning and Local Assistance

Megan Evans-Costello
Environmental Scientist
Southern District

Rebekah Fong
Office Technician (Typing)
Operations and Maintenance

Brian Ford
HEP Operator
San Joaquin Field Division

Heather Fox
Office Technician (Typing)
Operations and Maintenance

Jeffery Galef
Engineer
Bay-Delta Office

Loreto Garcia
HEP Operator Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

Seth Gargano
HEP Operator Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

Victor Garza
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

Vinh Giang
Engineer
Flood Management

Delia Grijalva
Right Of Way Agent
Engineering

Damon Grimes
Electrical Engineer
Engineering

Ajay Goyal
Senior Engineer WR
Bay Delta Office

Todd A. Gruber
Utility Craftworker, WR
Southern Field Division

Luis Guerra
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

William Hartley
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Executive

Andrea Hermeline
Engineer, WR
Planning & Local Assistance

Francis Hodgkins
State Reclamation Board
Member
Executive

Michael Hopkins
Utility Craftworker
Apprentice
Oroville Field Division

Akm Aminul Islam
Engineer, WR
DOE Civil Engineering

Thomas Jones, Jr.
Data Processing Manager I
Executive

Mark Kuah
Electrical Engineer
Engineering

John Langston
Engineer
Flood Management

Kevin Leahy
Associate Cost Estimator
Engineering

Darren Lee
Office Technician (Typing)
Management Services

William Lemenager
Utility Craftworker, WR
Flood Management

Leiji Lui
Engineer
Central District

New Hires *continued*

Jose Lopez
HEP Operator Apprentice
Southern Field Division

Earnie Lorren
HEP Electrician I
San Joaquin Field Division

Philip Lusan
Staff Information Systems
Analyst
Technology Services

Alfred Macias
Electrical Engineer
Engineering

Ernie Magana
HEP Operator
San Joaquin Field Division

Theasius A. Mansanas
Office Assistant (Typing)
Flood Management

Brenda Marines
Environmental Scientist
Southern District

Sean Marsh
HEP Mechanic Apprentice
San Luis Field Division

William G. Martin
Hydroelectric Plant
Mechanic I
Delta Field Division

Frank McCleary
HEP Operator
Southern Field Division

Kathleen McDonnell
Executive Secretary I
SWP Analysis Office

Brenda McLean
Accountant Trainee
Fiscal Services

Larry D. McNeil
Utility Craftsworker
Flood Management

Ross Melvin
Utility Craftsworker
Delta Field Division

Daniel Mendibles
Administrative Officer I,
Resources Agency
San Luis Field Division

Stephanie Mendiola
Office Technician (Typing)
Management Services

Erin Mullin
Engineer
Flood Management

Adriana Navarro
Office Assistant
Management Services

Cody Nelson
Utility Craftsworker
Apprentice
Delta Field Division

Khoi Nguyen
Engineer
Engineering

Darlene Nichols
Utility Craftsworker
Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

Brianne Noble
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services

Louis Normandin
HEP Mechanic Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

George P. Pell
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic I
Delta Field Division

Irene Ramos
Personnel Specialist
Management Services

Mitchell Rodger
Water and Power Dispatcher
Operations and Maintenance

Robert C. Ross
HEP operator Apprentice
Delta Field Division

Sean Rossi
HEP Operator Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

William Rowe
Engineering Geologist
Planning and Local Assistance

Lalita Sah
Engineer
Engineering

Raul Salcedo
Utility Craftsworker
Apprentice
Delta Field Division

Nancy Salguero
Office Technician (Typing)
Flood Management

Scott Salter
Utility Craftsworker
Flood Management

Noelle Schmidt
Legal Analyst
Executive

Gregg Schmidt
Mate, Fish and Game vessel
Environmental Services

Jeffery Schuette
Environmental Scientist
Flood Management

Peter Setzchen
HEP Operator
San Luis Field Division

Alan Shapley
HEP Operator
San Luis Field Division

Ravi R. Sharma
Mechanical Engineer
O & M Headquarters

Kenneth Shier
Building Maintenance Worker
Flood Management

Qiang Shu
Engineer, WR
Bay Delta Office

Stephen Simmons
Utility Craftsworker
Flood Management

Jonathan Stahlke
HEP Electrician Apprentice
Southern Field Division

Selwyn J. Thomas Jr.
Water and Power Dispatcher
O & M Headquarters

Robert Trang
Engineer
Flood Management

Edwin Ulmer
Staff Counsel
Executive

Vinson Vanderford
Utility Craftsworker
Flood Management

Alfonso Vargas
Staff Environmental Scientist
Flood Management

Sajan Varkey
Water and Power Dispatcher
Operations and Maintenance

Betsy Vierra
Office Assistant (Typing)
Management Services

Mally Vue
Engineer
Engineering

Mary N. Wells
Support Services Assistant
(General)
Flood Management

James Wesley
Utility Craftsworker
Southern Field Division

Daniel Whisman
Construction Supervisor III
Engineering

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Promotions

Derrick Adachi
Environmental Program
Manager I (Supv.)
Environmental Services

Joseph Aguilar
Senior Information Systems
Analyst
Technology Services

Raymond Aguilar III
Senior HEP Utility Engineer
(Specialist)
CERS

Joanne Alcalá
Materials and Store Specialist
San Joaquin Field Division

Kathy Aldana
Staff Services Manager II
(Managerial)
Operations and Maintenance

Mary A. Archuleta
Executive Assistant
Executive

Joe Armas
Business Service Assistant
Management Services

David Arrate
Engineer, WR
Planning and Local Assistance

Veronica Banuelos
Office Assistant (Typing)
DOE Headquarters

Derrick Bell
Associate Electrical Engineer
HS
Engineering

Peggy Bernardy
Staff Counsel III
Executive

Lynee V. Bitnoff
Staff Services Manager I
CERS

Dennis Borrelli
Water Resources Technician II
Delta Field Division

Rebecca Boyer
Executive Assistant
Executive

Michael Brault
HEP Mechanic II
Oroville Field Division

Gregory K. Brown
Control System Technician
Delta Field Division

Robert G. Burns
Engineering Geologist
Safety of Dams

Shannon D. Burns
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
CERS

Delfin Carreon
HEO Operator
San Joaquin Field Division

Hong Chau
Senior Programmer Analyst
Technology Services

Nannette Chester
Staff Services Analyst
DOE Headquarters

Larry Chick
Elect.-Mech. Testing Tech. II
Southern Field Division

Maria D. Chin
Senior Land Agent (Specialist)
O & M Headquarters

Priscilla N. Clark
Control System Technician II
San Luis Field Division

Steve Clark
Water Resources Technician I
Southern Field Division

Kristine A. Clerico
Office Technician (Typing)
San Joaquin Field Division

Garrett Clyde
Water Resources Technician I
Southern Field Division

Jamie Cole
Associate Budget Analyst
Fiscal Services

Thomas L. Coleman
Control System Technician II
San Luis Field Division

Rosa E. Corra
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
SWP Analysis Office

Carol Cotton
Water Resources Technician II
San Joaquin Field Division

Robert Crane
Senior Engineer
Flood Management

Carl Crismon
Elect.-Mech. Testing Tech. III
Delta Field Division

Steve Croft
Systems Software Specialist III
Technology Services

Holly B. Cronin
Senior HEP Utility Engineer
(Specialist)
SWP Analysis Office

James L. Curtis
Water and Power Dispatcher
O & M Headquarters

Kimberly De Mille
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Management Services

Ruth M. Delmugnaio
Executive Assistant
Executive

Jennifer Dong
Staff Services Manager I
Management Services

Terry Douke
Construction Management
Supv.
Engineering

Robert J. Duvall
Senior Environmental Scientist
O & M Headquarters

James Eckman
Senior Engineer WR
Flood Management

Megan Fidell
Engineer, WR
Planning and Local Assistance

Sean Foley
Associate Electrical Engineer
HS
Engineering

Dolreich Fua
Supervising Engineer
Executive

Kelli Giles
Associate Information Systems
Analyst
Bay-Delta Office

James Glein
Staff Environmental Scientist
Operations and Maintenance

Anabel Gil
Staff Information Systems
Analyst (Specialist)
DTS

Gretchen C. Goettl
Supervisor of Technical
Publications
Planning and Local Assistance

Curtis Gree, jr.
Water and Power Dispatcher
Operations and Maintenance

Karen J. Gubelli
Office Technician (Typing)
Southern Field Division

Joe Guerra
Assistant Utility Craftworker
San Joaquin Field Division

Susan Haight
Senior Land Agent
(Supervisory)
Engineering

Ronald Hall
Senior HEP Utility Engineer
(Supv.)
Southern Field Division

Steve L. Hawks
Utility Craftworker
Supervisor, WR
San Joaquin Field Division

Scott Hayes
Associate Land and Water Use
Scientist
Planning and Local Assistance

Linda J. Henderson
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Oroville Field Division

Jennifer L. Herron
Office Technician (Typing)
Southern Field Division

Daniel Hester
Senior Control Engineer
(Supv.)
Operations and Maintenance

Colleen Hicks
Office Technician (Typing)
California Energy Resources
Scheduling

Lenore D. Keen
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Flood Management

Marilyn L. Kehlet
System Software Specialist III
(Supervisory)
O & M Headquarters

Joe Lemus
HEP Electrician I
San Luis Field Division

Noel M. Lerner
Supervising Engineer WR
Flood Management

Promotions *continued*

Robert Lewis
Control System Technician III
Oroville Field Division

Kimberley Lincoln
Hydroelectric Plant Mechanic I
Southern Field Division

Rene Luna
Utility Craftsworker
Delta Field Division

Israel Luna, Jr.
HEP Mechanic I
Delta Field Division

Candice G. Marg
Office Technician (Typing)
DOE Construction
Engineering

Guadalupe Martinez
HEP Electrician I
Southern Field Division

Douglas Mcelvain
Senior Water and Power
Dispatcher
Operations and Maintenance

Melissa Mckeand
Associate Electrical Engineer
HS
Engineering

William E. McLaughlin
Senior Engineer WR
Bay Delta Office

Cindy Messer
Senior Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services

Simeon Milton
HEP Electrician I
Delta Field Division

Robert Moore
Associate Electrical Engineer
HS
Engineering

Richard Mora
Water Resources Technician II
Central District

Douglas M. Myatt
Staff Services Manager I
Fiscal

Randy Nelson
Water Resources Technician II
Southern Field Division

Jason Newton
Utility Craftsworker
Oroville Field Division

Thang Nguyen
Supervising Engineer
Executive

Juan Nunez
Associate Information System
Analyst
Technology Services

Kimberly Oliphint
Staff Services Manager III
Management Services

James Olson
C.E.A.
California Energy Resources
Scheduling

Tahlia Orange
HEP Operator
San Joaquin Field Division

Trudy D. Payne
WR Engineering Associate
(Specialist)
Oroville Field Division

Stephanie Pettitt
Associate Information Systems
Analyst
Management Services

Kerri F. Price
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Fiscal

Jane Randall
Water Resources Technician I
Southern Field Division

Daniel Ray
Environmental Program
Manager I (Supv.)
Flood Management

David C. Rennie
Senior Engineer
Engineering

Dean Reynolds
Staff Land and Water Use
Specialist
Office of Water Use Efficiency
and Transfer

Jesse Rios
HEP Electrician I
Delta Field Division

Justin W. Robinson
Hydroelectric Plant
Electrician I
Oroville Field Division

Albert B. Romero
Construction Supervisor II WR
DOE Headquarters

Bonnie Ross
Staff Environmental Scientist
Flood Management

Ruben Sanchez
Elec-Mech Testing
Technician II
San Joaquin Field Division

Pedro Santos Jr.
Associated Electrical
Engineer HS
Engineering

Jane A. Schafer-Kramer
Executive Secretary I
Bay Delta Office

Mark Schultz
Supervising Engineer
Safety of Dams

M. Elizabeth Scott
Information Officer I
Public Affairs Office

John Secreast
HEP Mechanic I
San Joaquin Field Division

Mary Serrato
Research Analyst II
(Geographic Information
System)
Bay-Delta Office

Thomas M. Shannon
Hydroelectric Plant
Electrician I
Oroville Field Division

Geoffrey S. Shaw
Senior Engineer WR
Planning and Local Assistance

Ward C. Shigaki
Staff Information Systems
Analyst (Specialist)
DTS

Sean Silva
HEP Electrician I
San Luis Field Division

Sukhbir Singh
Associate Electrical
Engineer HS
Engineering

Edna Smith
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
O & M Headquarters

Stacy Snyder
Associated Information
Systems Analyst (spec.)
Engineering

Richard M. Soehren
Environmental Program
Manager II
Executive

Carlos Soria
Water Resources Technician II
Southern Field Division

Ralph Svetich
Supervising Engineer
Flood Management

Keith Swanson
Principal Engineer
Flood Management

Theodore Swift
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Services

Eric Tate
Utility Craftsworker
Apprentice
San Joaquin Field Division

Lee Terry
Senior HEP Utility Engineer
SWP Analysis Office

Gerald Thiessen
Elect.-Mech. Testing Tech. II
Delta Field Division

Maifiny Vang
Associate HEP Utility Engineer
SWP Analyst Office

Valentin M. Vela
Utility Craftsworker
Supervisor, WR
San Joaquin Field Division

Lorraine Ventura
HEP Electrician I
Southern Field Division

Betsy R. Vierra
Office Technician (Typing)
Management Services

Matthew Winston
Senior Meteorologist
Flood Management

Sharon Woodland
Associated HEP Utility
Engineer
Operations and Maintenance

Bruce Yonehiro
Staff Counsel III
Executive

Rafael Zabala
HEP Mechanic I
San Joaquin Field Division

Sonya M. Zamora
Associate Budget Analyst
Fiscal

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Retirements

Joseph L. Anderson
Utility Craftworker, WR
Flood Management

Lawrence Anderson
HEP Operator
Oroville Field Division

Dorothy Armstrong
Assistant Information Systems
Analyst
Technology Services

Shelly Asbury
Office Technician (Typist)
Engineering

Cynthia Brauer
Senior Information Systems
Analyst (Supv.)
Technology Services

Linda Buchanan
Staff Services Manager I
Planning and Local Assistance

Olen Campbell
Water Resources Technician II
San Joaquin District

Jose Casas
HEP Electrician I
Oroville Field Division

Marlo P. Coleman
Accounting Officer Specialist
Fiscal Services

Patricia Colson
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Fiscal Services

Tom Cooke
DWR (CERS) staff
Executive

Peter S. Garris
Deputy Director
CERS

John Gibson
HEP Electrician I
Oroville Field Division

Jon Hickey
Construction Management
Supervisor
Engineering

Jerry Jordan
Maintenance Mechanic
Southern Field Division

Lawrence Joyce
Senior Environmental Scientist
Operations and Maintenance

Ralph Kimmel
Utility Craftworker
San Joaquin Field Division

Barbara Knight
Delineator
Engineering

John Knox
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
Oroville Field Division

Kenneth Koebbe
Associate Corrosion Engineer
Operations and Maintenance

Kathleen Kuderer
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Engineering

Ken Kusler
Electrical Construction
Supervisor I
Engineering

Elame Lee
Office Assistant
Management Services

Rosalee Luna
Research Analyst I
Planning and Local Assistance

Richard Marshall
Flood Management
Supervisor
Flood Management

William C. McDonald
Construction Supervisor III
DOE Planning/Scheduling
Branch

Jesus M. Medrano Jr.
Utility Craftworker Supervisor
San Luis Field Division

Howard I. Mellow
Senior Water and Power
Dispatcher
Operations and Maintenance

Kathryn Mogavero
Supervisor of Technical
Publications
SWP Analysis Office

Gene W. Moise
Environmental Scientist
San Joaquin District

Charles A. Morones
Associate HEP Utility Engineer
Delta Field Division

Frank Nadal
Water Resources Technician II
San Joaquin Field Division

Noelie Owyang
Office Technician
California Energy Resources
Scheduling

Neal Perkins
Utility Craftworker
San Joaquin Field Division

Maureen Reed
Research Writer
SWP Analysis Office

Oscar Rodriguez
Elect.-Mech. Testing Tech. II
San Luis Field Division

Roger Sessine
HEP Mechanic I
San Joaquin Field Division

John Soto
Utility Craftworker
Southern Field Division

Lutricia Strong
Office Technician
DOE Mechanical and Electrical

Robert Teal
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
Flood Management

Jerry Thomas
HEP Electrician I
San Joaquin Field Division

Ann Valdez
Staff Services Analyst
Management Services

Bon Vu
Associate HEP Utility Engineer
Operations and Maintenance

Lori Weisser
Water Resources Engineering
Associate
Environmental Sciences

Wayne E. Wells
Transportation Surveyor Party
Chief
DOE Geodetic Branch

Joan Willard
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Operations and Maintenance

Betty Wilson
Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Operations and Maintenance

Keith Work
Systems Software Specialist III
(Supv.)
Operations and Maintenance

Bob S. Zaraghami
Supervising Control Engineer
O & M Headquarters

Any DWR Retiree, who would like to join
DWR's Alumni Club or to be added to
the DWR Alumni mailing list, contact
Bob Bailey at (916) 961-1897 or email
bbbailey@sprynet.com

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DWR'S PERSONNEL OFFICE

Retirements

Bob Corke, Senior Agricultural Biologist with the Division of Operations and Maintenance, retired in September after 25 years with DWR and almost 32 years with the State. As the only Pest Management Specialist with DWR, his inspections of DWR facilities took him from the Upper Feather River Lakes down to Lake Perris. In fact, according to Bob, he spent almost three quarters of his job on the road.

"I've been proud of this Department from the beginning," said Bob.

To sum it all up, it was fun and one of the best jobs I think anyone could have," said Bob.

Bob started his State career with the Department of Food and Agriculture on April 1, 1974 as a Seed Botanist. He was hired to teach the county agricultural biologist how to punch agricultural seed bags to draw "official seed" samples for testing to see if the label statement matched what was in the bag. Bob traveled the State for six years out of the Nursery and Seed Services unit at Food and Agriculture, coordinating the seed law enforcement activities with each County Agricultural Commissioner.

In 1980, Bob joined DWR after answering an advertisement for a pest control specialist.

"The Civil Maintenance Branch decided to let George Qualley go back to being a full-time engineer by bringing back the pest control specialist position that had been in place for several years. Bob Middleton and George Qualley advertised and

interviewed several of us for the position. Fortunately for me I was hired into a wonderfully professional organization with a great mission, to operate and maintain the SWP so as to deliver affordable water. Almost immediately I knew that DWR stood head and shoulders above the other state departments because we had a legitimate product to deliver," said Bob.

For the next 25 years, Bob worked with each of the five field divisions' civil maintenance staff, assisting them in meeting their annual pest management goals while abiding by increasing volumes of mandated laws, regulations, policies and procedures with regard to worker health and safety and protecting the environment. Bob made sure that the SWP facilities were 'vegetation free,' or a leak on a facility might be hidden and therefore missed.

"Throughout all these years the one thing that stands out in my mind to this day and still never ceases to amaze me is the quality of the talent in the people who make the water flow in the ditch to where it is needed. They are the kind of talented individuals you would see around a 'Red' Adair at an oil well fire; the kind of talent that could be given any challenge and would meet that challenge as long as everyone got out of their way. They are kind of 'unsung heroes' to me. I always thought it was an honor to work with them," said Bob.

Retirement plans for Bob include remodeling his new house in Missouri, taking classes in such varied subjects as bricklaying, computer technology, German, and history, and lots of travel with his wife.

Malcolm Gee, a Water Resources Engineering Associate with the Division of Engineering, retired in December after 41 years of service with DWR and the State.

"I will miss the work and the people at DWR. This is a very nice place to work and it is a professional environment," said Malcolm.

Malcolm started at DWR in July of 1964 with the Division of Design and Construction at the old DWR location at 23rd and R.

After four years with DWR, Malcolm moved to CALTRANS's Bridge Department, as a Drafting Technician and worked in the Bridge Department for eight years. He then moved to the Employment Development Department where he worked for seven months before returning to DWR in 1976 to work as a Senior Delineator with the Design and Construction Branch, and in 1978 he transferred to Mechanical Design Branch.

Some of Malcolm's major projects with DWR included the Bottle Rock Power Plant, A.D. Edmonston Pumping Plant, and the Hyatt Power Plant Refurbishment. He was working on the South Delta Improvements Program at the time of his retirement.

In retirement, Malcolm says the first order of business is to work on the house, and he plans to do some traveling around the U.S. with his wife.



Malcolm Gee

Retirements *continued*

Maureen Reed, Research Writer with the State Water Project Analysis Office, retired in November 2005 after 26 years with the State and 20 years with DWR.

Maureen began her State service with the Department of Justice in San Francisco. She left State employment to raise a family, and she worked at California State University, Sacramento for a few years until she was reinstated with the State at DWR in the Division of Flood Management as a senior stenographer.

After two years, she transferred to SWPAO where she progressed from Executive Secretary to Editorial Technician to Research Writer. One of her main tasks as a Research Writer with SWPAO was working on Bulletin 132, Management of the State Water Project.

Maureen did extra volunteer work during the floods of 1986 providing information to the public.

"I would have to say that over the years at DWR, the most fun I had on the job was going out into the field with the snow

surveyors because I love the outdoors," said Maureen.

Retirement plans for Maureen involve relocating to Reno where she has a retirement home and will be closer to her two sons. She also plans to do volunteer work with senior citizens, recreation projects, and the Save the Wild Horses organization.

"I love being closer to the mountains because I like to spend a lot of time hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing," said Maureen.



Maureen Reed

Paula Styler, Administrative Officer II with the Division of Environmental Services, retired in November after 25 years with the State. "I will miss working with all the wonderful people I've met over the past 25 years. I will miss traveling to all the divisions, districts and field divisions and working on special assignments that I've been assigned to, such as the Flood Emergency Action Team and working at the JOC during Flood emergencies. Although the assignments are stressful, those are instances where everyone pulls together and works as a team," said Paula.

Paula began her state career as an Office Assistant II (Typing) with the Secretary of State but soon transferred to DWR.

She worked as an Office Assistant II with the then Program Analysis Office and Control Office for a short time, and was promoted to Office Technician. She was promoted to Office Services Supervisor I in the Director's Correspondence Unit, then a Supervisor II and then Administrative Assistant II for the Executive Division.

She served as the Executive Division Administrative Officer for 6 years (including administering the awards program) and then transferred to the Management Analysis Office, taking the

administration of the awards program with her. She worked in MAO for 12 years and then transferred to the Division of Environmental Services in 2002 to serve as their Administrative Officer II.

Paula's retirement plans include moving to Sparks, Nevada, and visiting co-workers who have also retired and left California.

Paula hopes to continue her work as a hospital volunteer at the Washoe Medical Center. She also volunteers with the National Alliance for the mentally ill, and with the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Thrift Store.

"I plan to continue my volunteer work, enjoy the sunrises and sunsets and time to play my piano, sew, play some slot machines, and do anything I feel like doing," said Paula.



Paula Styler

Retirements *continued*

After 27 years of State service, 19 years with DWR, **Linda Dutra**, a Staff Programmer with the Division of Technology Services retires in November.

"In all the time I have worked for DWR I thoroughly enjoyed the ride and fellowship. As I step into retirement, I was very fortunate to have this great career opportunity to work for DWR. I will miss the projects, but especially the wonderful people I have met along the way," said Linda.

Linda began State service as an Office Assistant working for Health Services and Caltrans intermittent pool, where she eventually went full-time and held a position in Social Services Personnel Office.

She then transferred to DWR's Personnel Office in 1986 as a Personnel Specialist, where she later became a Personnel Supervisor.

"The Personnel arena was my first love. For eight years I met many DWR employees while processing their hiring, transfer, payroll or insurance documents," said Linda.

"The Personnel team was great, and back then a Personnel Specialist carried a roster of 350-400 employees and document processing was mostly done manually. The closest thing to a computer was a "green screen" monitor hooked to Controller's for keying payroll documents. The multi-tasking of voluminous personnel documents with critical timeframes was massive, but a great challenge, and I loved it all," she said.

Although she enjoyed her position in Personnel, she was interested in working with the new technology available, and she transferred into ISSO (now DTS) in 1993 as an Assistant Information Systems Analyst.

"I found a new world among the new computer age and another love. DTS staff was great and I couldn't ask for a better team. I was provided program and web development classes rounding out my skills and experience and later promoted to Staff Programmer," said Linda.

Linda's accomplishments with DTS included developing Department-wide desktop programs, the development of the Regional Transit Program for Executive, United Way Program, Tracking Form 700 Designated Positions Programs for Personnel, Job Tracking program for Reprographics Unit, Cell Phones, Calling Cards and several other programs for Telecommunications, along with converting DWR web sites to public or Aquanet sites.

Linda already has a full plate as far as retirement plans go.

"My husband and I want to squeeze in some more fishing and camping time in some of the popular campgrounds such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, and Grand Canyon. I have an interest in studying plants and wildlife, maybe becoming an apprentice naturalist somewhere down the road—who knows, it's a big world and a lot to learn," said Linda.

Linda also plans to continue volunteer projects she has been involved in. She was a volunteer for the "Wildlife Care Association," and she may expand it to animal rescue care volunteer organizations.

"Of course, there is always spring cleaning, housework stuff, but they will certainly be last choice on this girl's agenda," said Linda.

Jodie Benson, Administrative Officer II with Fiscal Services, retired at the end of March after a little over 30 years of State service, 27 years with DWR.

"I have especially enjoyed the Administrative Officer work. The duties are very diverse which keeps the job interesting," said Jodie.

Jodie started with DWR as an Office Assistant in the Energy Division. She then moved up through the ranks from Management Services Technician to Staff Services Analyst, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, and finally Administrative Officer II.

In her work, Jodie said she enjoyed the opportunities provided by the A.O. position including the chance to do some problem solving, and thinking outside the box.

"I'd like to credit my mentors, Hank Struckmeyer and Chet Winn for giving me opportunities to grow as a manager by setting such great examples," said Jodie.

In retirement, Jodie intends to garden and spend time with her husband, her three sons, and her six month old grandson.

"My healthy, happy days are ahead of me," said Jodie.

Retirements *continued*

Edith Fong, Word Processing Technician with the Division of Safety of Dams, retired in May after 31 years of State service.

"I have enjoyed working for DSOD throughout the years and will miss all of my friends at DWR," said Edith.

She started her career at the State in 1962 as an Intermediate Stenographer with the Department of Public Works, Division of Highways, where she worked for five years. She transferred over to DSOD on May 18, 1978.

The Stenographer rating was removed while Edith worked at DWR, and she was reclassified as a Word Processing Technician.

"I believe my proudest accomplishments, since I've been working for DSOD for so long, I've prepared several checklists and guidelines for processing the multitude of special projects I did for DSOD. I am very proud of my ethics and professionalism" said Edith.

She took a break from work from 1976 to about 1980 to raise her children. "I wanted to return to work before my 3-year reinstatement period was up. I was concerned about being

rehired because at that time, there was a State hiring freeze. I was very fortunate to be reinstated at Central District. After I was at Central District for a while, my previous supervisor asked if I could return to DSOD. I said yes. For about 14 years, I worked as a permanent intermittent employee, worked 4/5ths time for a few years, then full time. That way I was able to spend more time with my children when they were younger.

"Now I would like to spend more time with my 2-year old granddaughter and another grandchild due in July 2006. I will be doing a lot of babysitting (not full time), continue my exercise classes, travel in between, volunteer work, and whatever else comes my way," said Edith.



Edith Fong

Obituaries

Albert Dolcini

Albert June Dolcini, retired from DWR after a long and illustrious career, died on December 9, 2005 at the age of 86.

Born in San Francisco on October 12, 1919, Dolcini completed his bachelor's degree in engineering from UC Davis in 1941. Upon graduation, he was immediately drafted into the U.S. Army and served a four year tour of duty in the Pacific theater. After his discharge, he reached the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Dolcini was a trailblazer within the Department, starting with Water Resources in 1949 before its official organization seven years later. Dolcini was a principal author of the first California Water Plan, Bulletin 3, published in 1957. Nancey, Dolcini's wife of 60 years, remembers her husband's pride in that accomplishment.

"He truly enjoyed his work on Bulletin 3. I can distinctly remember him being up until past midnight many nights in a row...he did most of it single handedly." According to Nancey, Dolcini's completion of Bulletin 3 led to his work with the World Bank and United Nations, for whom he conducted water-use studies in India, Ethiopia and Pakistan.

Dolcini retired from DWR in 1982 as the longest standing Chief of Northern District. According to **Linton Brown**, retired DWR engineer, Dolcini's guidance was instrumental in preparing a number of Northern District Senior staff to serve in upper management of DWR. **Bob Potter, George Baumli, Wayne Gentry** and many others benefited from their association with Mr. Dolcini.

According to his wife, Dolcini was an avid stamp collector and enjoyed baseball and golf. "He played softball and pitched for various Water Resources teams, and he was the happy owner of a baseball signed by Babe Ruth and all the 1931 Yankees." Though less successful on the links, Dolcini still loved the game. Nancey described his passion as "a major frustration, but enjoyable anyway."

Dolcini is survived by his wife Nancey, six children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Wilferd W. Peak

Wilferd W. Peak, a former chief geologist with the Division of Safety of Dams, passed away in August 2005.

"He was the first full time engineering geologist at DSOD and hired the Division's initial geology staff during his tenure," said **William Fraser**, Chief of the Geology Branch, DSOD.

Wilferd served in the Army during WWII, and later he served in the reserves. After he received his M.S. in Geology from UCLA, he immediately joined the Division of Water Resources as a junior engineering geologist in 1948. During his career, he planned and directed geologic exploration for the California Aqueduct, the North and South Bay Aqueducts, and the San Luis project. He joined DSOD in 1964, where he was the chief geologist for the Division until his retirement in 1984, and he was instrumental in creating the DSOD Geology Branch as it is today.

"He worked at DSOD during one of the most prolific eras in dam building in California, and oversaw the design and construction of approximately 300 dam projects," said William.

He was also instrumental in creating legislation which required registration for geologists in California, and he was given the honor of being "Certified Engineering Geologist CEG No. 1" and "Registered Geologist, RG, No. 2." He was appointed by Governor Reagan in 1969 to serve on the first Registration Board for Geologist where he served as president until 1972; he was re-appointed in 1972 for a second three-year term.

Other professional commitments included his appointment to the Seismic Safety Commission, and he authored a paper entitled, "Guidelines for Practice in California—Engineering Geology versus Civil Engineering." He was also affiliated with the Association of Engineering Geologists and the Geological Society of America.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Audria, and his extended family.

Gordon W. Dukleth

Gordon W. Dukleth, a DWR engineer for 33 years who helped build California's State Water Project, died May 11 at age 88.

A decorated veteran of World War II service as a bomber crew chief in the European Theater, Gordon began his DWR career after graduating in 1950 from the engineering school at the University of California at Berkeley. He retired in 1983.

He held prestige assignments with DWR, serving as Chief of the Division of Design and Construction for six years and Chief of the Division of Safety of Dams for four years. He enjoyed the distinction of being first director of DWR's new Northern District office in Red Bluff, starting in 1966.

"One of Gordon's most important assignments was as DWR's State Water Project liaison to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in Denver," recalls **Larry Mullnix**, former DWR Deputy Director.

In that role during 1962-63, he worked on construction and operational plans for the San Luis Joint Complex, shared by the federal Central Valley Project and the SWP. Joint storage and use at San Luis Reservoir—largest offstream reservoir in the nation—provides great operational flexibility and enhanced efficiency to both systems.

While stationed in Denver, he met and married his wife, Margaret. She survives, along with their sons, Tom of New York City, and Don of Auberry (California), and Gordon's sister, Margaret Espe of Portland, Ore.

Dukleth was born in Kalispell, Montana on May 8, 1918 and raised on a nearby farm. "Like many in his generation," recalls DWR retiree **Keith Barrett** who worked with Dukleth, "Gordon was a hard-working professional whose attitudes and values reflected his farm youth. He was highly professional, always calm and reserved, not an overbearing person. He took a team approach."

He came to California in 1938, working first for the U.S. Public Health Service on Angel Island, and later the Railway Express Agency in San Francisco. In 1941, two months before Pearl Harbor was bombed, he joined the U.S. Army Air Forces.

During World War II, Dukleth, a non-commissioned officer, served as a crew chief for the Douglas A-20 Havoc and Douglas A-26 Invader, light bombers that were making raids over Nazi-occupied Europe. He served in the 409th Bomb Group of the U.S. Eighth Air Force, based initially in England and later, as German forces retreated, in France.

Sergeant Dukleth earned a Bronze Star for his service. He was discharged in October 1945.

He graduated from Cal with a degree in civil engineering in 1950. He immediately began working for DWR. His assignments included work on SWP planning and construction, as well as dam safety. His calm, professional style impressed his peers and co-workers.

"Gordon was extraordinarily approachable and unfailingly polite," recalls DWR retiree Lint Brown who met him in the Design and Construction Division's Dam Design Section in 1961.

Bob Potter recalls that in the 1960s, when Dukleth drew the assignment as DWR's first director of the District Office in Red Bluff, he and a few other staffers worked closely in a small office on Pine Street.

"He was a very calm, completely professional guy on the job," recalls Potter, retired Chief Deputy Director for DWR. "We played a lot of golf in those days, and I don't think he ever lost his temper on the course. He was unflappable."

The District's 25-Yearbook said of Dukleth that he was "courteous and gentlemanly, somewhat reserved and formal, distinguished and impeccably dressed."

Lint Brown summarized Dukleth this way:

"Gordon's engineering accomplishments were many, but his essence is summed up simply: Here was a true gentleman in the finest sense of the word."

Funeral services were held on May 19 in Sacramento. Donations in his honor may be made to Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Sutter General Hospital, 2801 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Obituaries *continued*

Richard Rowland

Richard Rowland passed away March 6, 2006 in Sylmar California at the age of 80.

Richard joined DWR in 1984 as a chief electric plant operator for Alamo Powerplant. He also worked at Oso Pumping Plant and Warne Powerplant.

Before he joined the State, he spent 35 years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II, and he served with the National Guard in the Vietnam and Korean wars.

He also retired as chief operator with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in 1984. His assignments ranged from the startup of the Castaic Powerplant to work at the Hoover Dam, where he started his career in hydroelectricity in 1952.

He is survived by many members of his immediate family.

Joseph Patrick Navarra

Joseph Patrick Navarra, a former custodian at the San Luis Field Division's Administration Building and the Romero Visitors Center, died from a heart attack March 2, 2006, at Doctors Medical Center in Modesto, two weeks before his 78th birthday.



A resident of Gustine for 35 years, Navarra worked for DWR for 13 years; from 1976 until a triple bypass heart operation forced him to retire in 1989.

Joe was affiliated with Our Lady of Miracles Catholic Church and the Assembly of God Church, both in Gustine. He was preceded in death by his wives, Faye Lincoln and Esther Navarra, and is survived by seven step-children, 23 step-grandchildren and 10 step-great-grandchildren.

He was an avid San Francisco 49ers fan, always wore a 49ers cap, and was affectionately known as "Joe 49er." He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Gustine Senior Citizens, and the Gustine Historical Society.

Howard Berman of the San Luis Field Division Guide Services says Navarra enjoyed going to yard and garage sales and once a

year would host a large yard sale of his own. "Joe was well liked by everybody here," said Berman. "After cleaning a room, he enjoyed leaving gifts on the desk tops, such as a small bag of candy. Even though he hadn't worked at San Luis for 17 years, many people remember him fondly."

Clyde Andrews

Former DWR employee **Clyde Andrews** passed away on February 8, 2006. He was 97 years old. He was a Senior Hydroelectric Plant Operator at the Gianelli Pumping Plant.

Clyde began work at the San Luis Field Division in 1967, and was involved in the initial start-up of plant operations conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He was the first employee to retire from SLFD in 1975.

"He was a good man, and he did his job well," said Tom Hammond, Clyde's former supervisor at San Luis Field Division.

Clyde served in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

He was laid to rest at the San Joaquin National Cemetery on February 22, 2006.

Kamran Mirsepassi

Kamran Mirsepassi, a long time DWR employee, died March 4, 2006. He worked for the Divisions of Safety and Dams, Operation and Maintenance and the Division of Engineering. He is survived by his wife, Rosemarie, and children, Kevin and Lily.

Joaquin Jamie

Joaquin "Gene" Jamie, a former employee in Reprographics, passed away on February 8, 2006.

Jamie spent 29 years of service with the State. Former co-workers in Reprographics remember him as an excellent worker, and that he was part of the "Can Do Crew" in Reprographics.

Joaquin is survived by his wife of 44 years, Antonia, and a large extended family. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Don Crawford

Don Crawford, a career man in water who worked for both the federal and State governments, passed away on March 8, 2006.

"He grew up behind a mule in a poor, rural area, but he worked hard all his life to succeed. He is the American success story. He was also a great guy," said his son Jim, a pastor in San Jose.

Don came from a small town in North Carolina, in the Appalachian Mountains. He joined the Army where he got his GED, and served in the Korean War. After the war, he worked to get his Journeyman Electrician's certification with the Tennessee Valley Authority Project. After work at both Niagara Power and Light and the Tennessee Valley Authority Project, he and his family moved to Oroville in 1965 to work on Oroville Dam. After Oroville, he moved to Los Banos to work on the San Luis Reservoir, where he was promoted to Hydroelectric Plant Maintenance Superintendent.

In 1981, Don left State service to join the International Water and Boundary Commission, where he was promoted to the Director of Operations and Maintenance of the project.

He returned to DWR as an Electrical Construction Supervisor in 1995 to work on the DWR coastal aqueduct. After he retired in 1996, he returned as a retired annuitant until 2001.

He was a dedicated golfer, and he is survived by his three sons and his second wife, Virginia.

Richard J. Lerseth, 67, Dies After 35 Year DWR Career

Richard James Lerseth, a DWR engineer for 35 years, died in October 2005. His assignments ranged from Delta flow studies to water contract coordination and special duty with Drought Water Bank programs. He was a special assistant to Deputy Director Larry Mullnix when DWR's focus was on increasing State Water Project deliveries.

An expert in Information Technology, Lerseth spent the final years of his career as a Supervising Engineer for the State Water Project Analysis Office. He helped draft water policy and water contractor agreements for North Bay Aqueduct Water Contractors, the Coastal Aqueduct Water Contractors and for Water Contractors on the East Branch Extension of the California Aqueduct. These represented three major DWR projects in the 1980s and 1990s.

After serving four years in the Navy, 1957-1961, Lerseth earned a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering at California

State University, Sacramento. Richard began his State career while still a student, joining DWR full-time in 1966 as a Water Resources Technician II with the Division of Engineering.

Early in his career, he was active in computer modeling of water flows and water hydrology for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. His Delta work won commendations from superiors, including Director Ronald B. Robie, for developing models and programs for analyzing project impacts on Delta flows and later from Director David N. Kennedy for Bay-Delta hearing staff work.

Lerseth earned promotions to Associate Water Quality Engineer in 1975, Senior Engineer in 1979 and Supervising Engineer in 1988.

During the 1990s, Lerseth's assignments included award-winning work on Drought Emergency Water Bank programs.

After serving as executive assistant to both Deputy Directors Robert Whiting and Larry Mullnix, Richard moved to SWPAO for the final years of his career. He retired in December 2000, with almost 39 years of total State service, 35 with DWR. A Memorial Service was held November 2 at Lombard & Company, Funeral Directors, in Sacramento.

His survivors include his wife of 44 years, Kazuko; two sons, Ken and John; brother, Donald; sisters, Mary Dobbins and Anne Koelling, and three grandchildren.

Phillip Bartlett

Phillip Michael (Mickey) Bartlett passed away on November 4 in Bakersfield. He spent two years with DWR as a HEP Operator at San Joaquin Field Division before he transferred to MWD of Southern California, where he worked until his retirement. He was an avid outdoorsman, and he is survived by his wife Sandra, and member of his family.

Blase Jerome Diffenbaugh

Blase Jerome Diffenbaugh, former Guide I with the San Joaquin Field Division, passed away on May 11, 2006.

After a career with the Army, Blase moved his family to Bakersfield. Blase started his career with DWR in 1964, and he was promoted to Guide I, where he conducted tours for many national and international guests along the southern stretch of the Aqueduct, including Wind Gap and A.D. Edmonston Pumping Plant. He retired in 1983 from the San Joaquin Field Division.

He is survived by his extended family.

DWR MISSION

Statement

To manage the water resources
of California in cooperation
with other agencies,
to benefit the State's people,
and to protect, restore,
and enhance the natural
and human environments.

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